

THE
Famous, pleasant,
and variable Historie,
1650 of Palladine of
England.

Discoursing of honorable Aduentures,
of Knightly deedes of Armes and Chivalrie:
*enterlaced likewise with the love of sundrie noble
personages, as time and affection limi-
ted their desires.*
(*)

Heerein is no offence offered to the wise by wanton
speeches, or encouragement to the loose by
lasciuious matter.

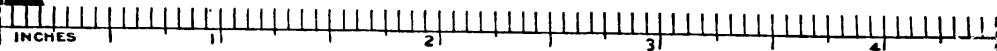
Translated out of French by A. M. one of the messengers
of her Maiesties Chamber.

Tutere Patere aut abstine.

AT LONDON,
Printed by Edward Allde for John Perin, dwelling
in Pauls Churchyard at the signe of the Angell,
And are there to be sold.

1054
1588
—66

1588.





TO THE RIGHT
Honorable, Robert Deuorax, Earle
of Essex, and Ewe: Viscount of Hereford and
Bourchier: Lord Ferrers of Chartley, Bourchier
and Louayne: Master of the Queenes
Maiesties Horse: *A. M.*
Wisheth increase of all
happinesse.



*A*mong those (right Ho-
norable) that offered incense in the
Temple of Iupiter, in plates of Golde ac-
cording to the custome, a simple Heards-
man religiously affected, brought his of-
fering on a broken porsheard: for which
he being reprooned by Iupiters Priest,
boldly returned this answer. The
Gods that dispose all, knowe all, rich men are discerned by their
great gifts, and poore men by their simple, yet happily their zeale
is not alike: for rather had I be thought unmannerly by this
homely present, then vndutifull by want of better abilitie.

In like manner, right noble Lord, among those ripe and cu-
rious wittes, that offer to your learned view matter of valew squa-
red and leuel by deepe knowledge and experience: a simple zea-
lous man, more deuoted in affection to your honors welfare, then
able to expresse the same as other can, presents this rude and vn-
pullished peece of worke, not handled with arte, because I wane
is, nor glozed with borrowed phrases, because I am loth to be-
come indebted: but equall with the poore Heardsmans porsheard,
and with him chusing rather to be thought homely, then vnduti-
full,

The Epistle.

full, knowing that the Eagles eyes of Iupiter, can search into the substance of the one and other.

This worke of Palladine, with all his imperfections, I humbly commit to your honorable protection: knowing, that in respect of your owne loue to Chinatrie, you will thinke well of him, and because he is an Englishman, in the better sort fauour him.

For my selfe, as I neuer knew honor partiall in opinion, but with upright iudgement to ballance each mans deserting: so in this assurance, with reuerence,

I end, as forward as any in affection
to your Honor.

A. Monday.



To



To the corteous and freendly
Readers.

MY promise was, that by Easter Tearme this worke should be published, and according to my promise, heere doo I send it: not doubting but you will so fauourably censure thereon, as my paynes, and the pleasure of the Historie deserueth. If you happen to fynde any mislike in the translation, or that it is not so currant English as fyne eares hunt after: let this serue as a sufficient excuse for mee, that in translating, men are bound to their Writers words, and such as roue at random, may set downe what they please.

And this I am to intreate on the Printers behalfe, and mine owne, whereas in dyuers places there are faultes escaped, as woordes verie much mistaken, many left out, and others common: that you will freendly let passe such ouer-sights, and at the next Impression they shall bee amended; for I beeyng often absent, and the Printer carefull to
end

To the freendly Readers.

end his worke by appoynted time, haue beene the
cause of all these escapes. Thus committing my
Booke and my selfe to your fauourable
iudgement, I ceasse. From my house
without Cripple-gate this 23.
of Aprill.

Yours to bee commaunded,
Anthony Monday.

I



THE
Famous, pleasant,
and variable Historie
of *Palladine*.

Discoursing of Knightly and woorthy deedes of
Armes: and unfolding the loue of many great Princes
and Lords, but especially of PALLADINE,
Sonne to the King Milanor of England,
and the faire Selerina, sister to the
King of Portugall, &c.

CHAP. I.

*Of the birth of Prince PALLADINE, and the
strange aduenture that happened on the day of his
birth, in the Citie of *London*, before the Pallace of
King *Milanor*.



I what time the puis-
sant and spacious Empire of *Greece*
and most fertile *Asia*, was held in
subiection by the great *Turke*, and
the *Romaine* Monarchy was com-
manded by the wise Emperour
Iustinian, Gouverneur of both high
and nether *Almayne*: raigned in
great *Britayne*, now called *England*, a King named
A. J. Milanor,

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Milanor, who from his youth was so well instructed in good letters, and the Sciences liberrall, as among the most learned Doctors he was reckoned percellente, before he came to the age of eightene yeres. During this time of his education, his Souldiers to make him perfect in all things becoming so great a Prince, caused him to practise the managings of great Hostes, to use the Tilt and Tourney, with all other feats of agilitie incident to Armes: where in right soon he grew so prompt and excellent, as all the Lords and Subjects of his Realme were not onely amazed at his forwardnes, but thought themselves especially blessed, to live vnder the regement of so braue a King. For was this ioy alone to them, but many other nations and forreigne Princes did participate therein, especially the Kings of Scottes and Norwales his neighbours, who hearing of the great bountie, prowellie, magnanimitie, and other laudable vertues in this King, determined to be friends to him and his, holding this opinion, that being confederate with *England* in loue, no other King or Prince durst molest them with warres. Upon this consideration, they sent their Ambassadors to his Maiestie, to promise and sweare peace, amitie, and inuolable concord, with obeyssance, and acknowledging him their Superiour, where they were receiued honourably, and with content, a matter greatly auailing them afterward, as you shall perceiue by the following discourse of our Historie.

The King of *Portugall* understanding the manifold vertues, and power of King Milanor, as also that so many Kings and Princes desired his friendly alliance, preuailed so well by his sundry Embassades, as the King of *England* married with his sister named *Selerina*, faire in perfection, young and gracious among all the Ladies in her time, and to continue holy loue betwixt this King and Quene, soon after she was conceived with a goodly Sonne, at whose birth happened such a maruelous aduenture, as no registered memorie receiues the like.

At

of Palladine of England.

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At what time the Quene was in trauayle, suddenly was the Citie of *London* couered with a darke and fearefull Clowde, the heauens deliuering such thunder and lightning, the earth likewise shaking and trembling so straungely, as the Citizens expected death euery moment, imagining the end of the world was come vpon them. For the space of two houres this wonderfull tempest endured, untill the Quene was deliuered of her burthen, when the Clowde began to vanish away, and the heauens looked fayre and cheerefull as before. After this despairing storme, the people who with feare and terror of the thunder, had hid themselves in baultes and caues, amazed and fearefull, began to shew themselves: but when the Gentlemen in the Kings Pallace came to open the windowes, they beheld in the great waste place before the Court, three Statues of Copper, each one about eight fote in height, and by each of them stood a Colonne of blacke Marble, on the topmost whereof, hanged a Shield of fine and pure Steele, right curiously engrauen and polished, and enriched with many pretious stones and iewelles: in breife, such was the workmanship and deuise thereof, as neither sword, launce, or bullet from an Harquebuse, could any way pierce or enter it. About this Shield on the same pillar, was engrauen these verses in faire graine letters, whereto the Statue pointed with one of his fingers.

*Pallas the wise Goddesse, whose skill thus framed me,
Orland I must be giuen, vnto the cheefe in chiuallrie.*

The second Statue shewed on his Pillar, the God of loue Cupid, being framed of massie Orientall Pearle, holding a golden bolue in his hand, and his arrowes in a Quiver of golde by his side, vnder his fete on the Pillar was engrauen these verses in Romanic letters.

*No one so stout or affable, can take me from this place,
Except in loyaltie of loue, all other he surpasse.*

The third Statue, made in forme of a goodly bearded

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full

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full woman, she lewd on the Colonne standing by her, the Image of the Goddess Venus, in white Alabaster, hauing on her head a Crowne of Golde, embellished with many Rubies, Diamonds, Emeraulds, and other precious Stones of great value. This Image of Venus held in her left hand a flaming firebrand, and pointed with her right hand to the Crowne. Under her feet hung a Table, wherein was written two French verses, thus Englished.

*This Crowne is for the Ladie fr. and.
That chiefe in beautie shall be namd.*

The two first Statues seemed like two fierce and strong Savage men, each of them hauing a great fauchion hanging in skarffes by their sides, and in such sort were they charmed, as whosoever made offer to take the Crowne, or touch the God of Loue, was immediatly assailed by one of the men, who would not giue over till he had vanquished him. Many knightes of England, and other Countreys, aduентured their fortunes at these Statues, but were still repulsed, untill the knight came that conquered these monstrous men, as hereafter in the Historie shall be declared.

In like manner, at the Image of Venus, the Ladies profered to take away her Crowne, but the Statue standing by, repelled them continually, so that they which once had assayed, durst meddle no more: wherefore, the Crowne remayned unconquered, untill the Lady came that surpassed all other in beauty, to whome the hono^r of the Crowne was bestowed.

After they had long beheld and considered this aduerture so admirable, and vnable to coniecture the meaning thereof, diuers went to aduertise the King of this accident, who was no lesse abashed hereat then the other were, especially the Quene, whose feare was not a litle, hearing the terrible thunder and tempest that happened, by which occasion she had more speedie deliuerance then was

of Palladine of England. 3

was expected, and with greater ease, then commonly women haue: yet was the child in such goodly shape, resembling his father, as the Mother was highly pleased therewith, hoping this Infant would remaine an inuolable league of loue betwene the King and her, and the rather, the intelligence of this new spectacle animated her therewith.

The King giuing little credite to this strange report, went in person with all the Princes and Lords of his Court to behold the same, and seeing that it was true indeede, confessing likewise the thing in strangenesse to surpass the memorie of all former aduētures: he sent immediately for the most skilfull Philosophers in his Realm, who hauing learnedly considered thereof, assured the King, that at the instant appearing of those rare spectacles, a Child should be borne, that in bountie, prowesse and loyalty, should excēde all the knightes in the world: for whose renoune, a wise Pigromancer had appointed that occasion, that each curious eye might discern his rare vertues, among all that should aduēture for the Sheld and Trophe of Cupid. For can we iudge my Lord, sayd these wise men, that the same is reserved for any other, then your new borne Sonne, at whose houre of birth, the Statues appeared, or (at leaste) some other that shall issue from him: for our iudgemente in his Astracisme doth perswade vs, that he shall be valiant and renowned in scates of Armes, and in loyalty was neuer man found his second.

As for the Image of Venus, that beareth the rich Crowne, we geisse (my Lord) it is meant to some Daughter you shall haue hereafter, who in beautie and gracious nature, shall excēde all of her time. If it like your Maestie, to make experience of what we haue sayd, you must send for all the fairest Ladies in your Realm, and permit them to trie their vertue, in taking the Crowne from the head of the Image, in which attempt, you shall receive

A. ij.

occasion

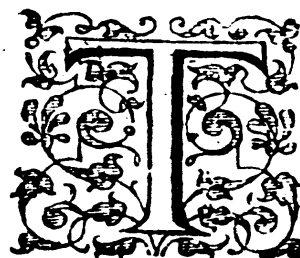
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occasion of exceeding pleasure : for the brassen statue which you behold standing by it, will repulse the Ladies in such sort, as they shall repent their bold aduerture.

The King very ioyfull to heare these newes, said : By the faith of a Prince, I will cause proofe to be made hereof within these few dayes, and first, the Ladies of our Citie of *London* shall begin, if they can not speede in their attempt, the Ladies through our Realme shall be aduertised thereof, as also they of *Scotland* and *Norgalles*, which haue commendation beyond other Nations for beautie. In the meane while I will go conferre with the Queene hereon, who (as I thinke) will not be a little glad, to heare that such good fortune is reserved for our yong Sonne. As he was about to depart thence, he beheld the inscriptions engrauen on the Pillers, which causing to be read, and vnderstanding the effect of them all thre : In sooth (quoth he) I will for the loue of Pallas, who framed this faire shield, that my Sonne at his Chyldening shall be named Palladine, which came so to passe, as you shall reade hereafter.

CHAP. II.

¶ How the King *Milanor* recounted the meruaile of the three Statues to the Queene, and of the great Triumphs was made at the Baptizing of the yong Prince, who was named *Palladine*.



The King hauing aduisedly considered this strange accident, and vnderstood to what end it was appointed, went very ioyfully to the Quenes Chamber, and there to her rehearsed what the wise men had said, which newes were so welcome to her, as nothing could be more. It now becometh vs *Madame* (quoth he) to forthinke on the

of Palladine of England.

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the Baptising of our Sonne, who shall be his Sureties in that holy Sacrament, to which I can request no fitter persons, then our friendly brethren and neighbors, the Kings of *Scotland* and *Norgalles*, so please you *Madame* to ioyne with me in opinion. The Queene was so well contented with this motion, as Ambassadors were immediately dispatched, who so well executed the trust committed to their charge, as the Kings reputed themselves highly honored by this request, and all things are now preparing for the Baptisme of this noble yong Prince. At the arrivall of these two Kings, great ioyes and triumphs were made by the Citizens of *London*, and as concerning their entertainment at the Court, you must thinke it was according to their high estates, withall, that Englishmen are not to learne to welcome Strangers.

When the day was come that the yong Prince should be Chyldened, as the King his father had requested, he was named Palladine : and afterward, to honor the time and the royall companie, there wanted no worthy deuises, with exquisite Chivalrie perfourmed both at the Tilt and Tourney, wherein the King of *Scots* bare great estimation, being a yong Prince, aged sixe and twenty yeres, and one, that in knightly exercises carried especiall account. Yet was not this ioy alone in the Court, but in *London* likewise the Citizens shewed the like, where the Conduits ranne diuers sorts of Wines, the Strates were stowed with Tables before the doores, and all kinde of good chere placed thereon, with such ringing of Belles, and making of Bonfires, as neuer was the like seen before that time. It were too long a matter to rehearse, what braue Theatres were erected, and therein presented most excellent Comedies, with Maskes, Mommeries, and all kinde of delightfull inuentions, during the time of this feast, which continued sixtene dayes together. It shall suffice me to tell ye, how the King *Milanor* hearing that the Kings of *Scotland* and *Norgalles* would now returne home againe, was

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was desirous to haue the aduenture tried of the three Statues befoze they went, and therefore caused to be proclaimed by sounde of Trompet, through all the Streets in London, that all Knights and Gentlemen should on the morrow come to the Pallace, to aduenture their fortune for the rich Shield, and the God Cupid, so that if any one could take them from the Statues, with right good will they should enioy them. The like protestation was made of the Image of Venus, and the rich Crowne, which was destinated to the most accomplished Lady in beautie, the same whereof, called faire beauties darlings to the Court on heapes, each one thinking to beare away the Crowne, by the benefite of her amiable lokes. Wherefoze, the place and houre being appointed, God knowes how they laboured to augment their naturall beautie by artificiall meanes, as oyntments, distilled waters, perfumes, and other like extraordinary matters, which many Gentlewomen (who haue any naturall imperfection) at this day vse to make them seeme more amiable.

But now is the day come to make triall of the aduenture, when the King Milanor, with the Kings of Scotland and Norwales, and all the Ladies of the Court, went to the boyde place befoze the Pallace, and there on a faire Skaffolde couered with rich Tapistrie, sate downe to take view of the valiant Knightes, who durst presume to take the Shield from the Piller. So soner were they placed as be-seemed their estates, but twelue English Knightes, esteemed of greatest courage and valour in the Countrey, presented themselves (well armed) to trie their fortune.

After they had done reuerence to the Kings and Estates present, he that imagined himselfe of highest resolution among them, stept vp on foure of the staires befoze the Piller, thinking to reach the Shield that hung thereon, but the enchanted Image drawing his fauchion, with such furious strokes repulsed him downe againe, as he durst not presume to meddle any more, to the no little maruaile of the

of Palladine of England. 5

the King and his companie, who were not wont to behold such vncomely spectacles.

Next, came a gallant yong Knight, well provided with a Romaine Target, and a short arming Sword, and with marvellous valour, he ranne vp the steps befoze the Colonne, and attained to the highest step of all, but he went downe againe soner then he expected, for the Image threw him so violently backe againe, as he tumbled headlong downe the staires to the ground. Like fortune fell to the rest of the twelue, some shewing greater magnanimitie in fight then other did, yet their foile was alike, and this Shield of honoꝝ could not be wonne by any of them.

When came the Queene to the Skaffold, where the Kings sate, and vnderstanding how the Knightes had sped in this first Aduenture, she sayd. Strange is it (my good Lords) that no one of our Knightes can preuaile, let the Gentlemen proue the aduenture of the second Statue, whereon the God of loue sheweth himselfe, which must be conquered by none (as I heare) but by the most loyall Knight in the world, by this meane shall we know them that haue best deserued toward their Ladies, and who excelleth all other in constancie. Madam, answered the King Milanor, we thinke your counsell verie necessarie, for long will this Shield hang here, if no other Knightes then of our Realme come to trie their fortune: such therefore as hold best opinion of their owne loialtie, make triall of your vertue at the God of Loue, and for libertie we graunt to all strange Knightes, as to them of our Realme, which our Herald shall signifie for their better assurance.

B. J.

CHAP.

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CHAP. III.

¶ How many Knightes and Gentlemen of *England*, *Scotland*, and *Norgalles*, aduentured to winne the Image of Cupid, destenied to the most loyall, and how they were all repulsed: and the Ladies likewise in their triall for the rich Crowne.



When the Herald had publikely delivered his charge, the King commaunded all the knightes to brarme themselves, for loyaltie (quoth he) is not to be discovered by armes, but by the hidden vertue & thought, consisting in the hart of a man. My Lord, sayd the Quene, had you not assured me to whome this aduenture is reserved, I would haue intreated your Maestie to make the first triall. When Madame, quoth the King, you haue some suspicion of my loyaltie. Not so my Lord, sayd she, for nothing is lesse in my thought, and so certaine persuasion do I hold thereof, as I feare not that all present should behold your vertue, to the greater enlarging of your honoz and mine owne.

While these speeches passed, a yong English Gentleman came to mount the steps, that enuironed the Colonne whercon the God of Loue stode, but as he lifted his fote to the nethermost step, the Statue tumbled him backe, with his heeles upward, so that euery one laughed hartely thereat. In soth my frend, said the King, verie little loyaltie remaines in you, whome loue cannot abyde the sight of, if your Lady be in this company, good occasion hath she to get her a better seruant.

Then came another, who had many times inuocated on the name and fauour of his Mistresse, and he without any

of Palladin

any impeachment mounted on the third step, making an offer to attaine the fourth, but the Statue thrust him downe againe, whereby he might perceiue his owne insufficiencie, *Belaeue me*, quoth the Quene, he hath done much better than the other, and the Lady he loueth, is greatly beholding to him, for iustly may he be accounted loyall, in that the Image suffered him to ascend so high.

Then one of the King of *Norgalles* knightes came to trie his fortune, whome the Statue repulsed with such shame, as all the day after he would not be seene, I promise ye Gentleman, said the King his maister, you might haue spared the labour in conuincing so farre, to returne home with so foule a rebuke, and little neede had ye to shew vs your great inconstancie, brother quoth the King of *Scots*, be not offended with him, for well he knowes, that his Mistresse is not in this companie. You say true brother, answered the King of *Norgalles*, but if I knew her, I would aduertise her of his exceeding vertue.

Here commes another of my knightes to make a better profe, and yet perhaps, will amend his fellows dishonour. The knight attained the highest step, without any disturbance, and as he lifted his hand to take the Image of Cupid, the Statue took him by the arme, and set him on the ground againe, I see then, said the King of *Norgalles*, each one must here be iudged according to the greatness and defect of his loyaltie.

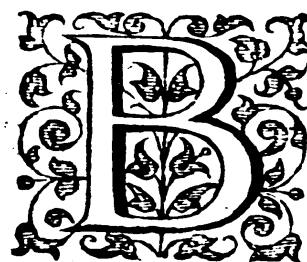
Afterward came a little Scottishman, as thicke as tall, his beard growing scattering like bristles, his nose flat to his face, two teeth standing before gaged out of his mouth, a man in euery part very much misshapen, and seruing as a Jester to make the King laugh, he had married a woman as handsome as himselfe, yet was he iealous of her out of all measure. This proper Squire seeing so many repulsed by the Statue, by breach of their loyaltie to their Maistres and Ladies, considered with himselfe, that he had neuer violated the bonds of marriage, but euermore kept his

his faith to his wife, therefore he would hazard his good hap, not doubting but to carie the Image of Cupid with him into *Scotland*. Having thus leaue of the King his Maister, with a little cudgell in his hand, he came to the Collomne, and went vp to the verie highest step, the Statue not offering any signe of resistance: but as this deformed fellow would haue embraced the Image of Cupid, the Statue snatched the cudgell out of his hand, and so rapt him therewith about the shoulders, as he was constrained to hye him downe againe, the Kings and all present merily laughing at this iest. Alas poore soles, said the King of *Scots*, how durst thou presume to shew thy selfe in this action: Why my Lord, answered the Quene, your little man is yet found the most loyall, and no Gentleman this day hath witnessed the like. Belieue me Madame, answered the King of *Scots*, it is against his will that he is so loyall, for being so euill fauoured and deformed, how can he finde any woman to offend with him. Come he, the little fellow said the King Milanor, you haue bene beaten with your owne cudgell, because ye came no better prouided: but that the honoz of the day may remaine to you, I will that at this present no further triall shall be made, enough hath bene done by men, let now the Ladies by their beautie aduenture for the rich Crowne of Venus, and let it suffice that a little fellow hath stained all our Knightes. The Quene in person began the enterprise, but reiected as vnworthy of the fatall Crowne, and after her followed the Ladies of the Court, whose fortunes were like or worse in effect, to their no little disgrace in their owne conceites, who prized their beauties at the highest rate. The *London* Dames had likewise their time of profe, yet could their daintie faces carie no pawne in this attempt, for the Crowne was reserued for the onely Lady, who might not be paragommed by any other whatsoeuer.

CHAP.

CHAP. IIII.

¶ How after all the Triumphs were ended, performed at the Baptisme of the yong Prince *Palladin*, and the aduentures thus left of the three Statues, the Kings of *Scotland* and *Norgalles* tooke their leaue of the King *Milanor* and the Quene, and returned from *England* into their owne Countreys.



¶ This time were all the Princes and Ladies thoroughly satisfied with the pastimes, wherefore with sound of Trompets, Clarions and Cornets, they returned to the Pallace, where was prepared for them a most roiall banquet: and because the Kings of *Scotland* and *Norgalles* were to depart on the morrow, the

Citizens of *London* in honoz of their Prince, came with diuers stately Maskes to the Pallace, where they behaued themselves to their credit, and the Kings good liking.

Afterward entred the hall twelue Gentlemen of the Court, in complete Armour, with blunt Foyles and Targets, when deuiding themselves fire against fire, hauing for their barre two Pykes, which were held ouerthwart by two of the Kings Guard, they layde on each other such eager strokes, as their swords flew in peeces, and their Armour was battered in many places. When they withdrew themselves, giuing place to twelue other, who Combatted with the Pyke, arming Sword and Battle-Axe, and thus was the night consumed in such disports, to delight the Kings of *Scotland* and *Norgalles*, who in the morning tooke their leaue of the King and Quene, and were conducted on their iourney by many English Lords. The King Milanor and his Quene being not a little contented, that

the Princes had done them such honoz in their Realme, but greatest of all was their comfort in their Sonne Palladine, who in prowesse and loyaltie should surpasse all other of his time, and was carefully nourished by a vertuous Gentlewoman, wife to an aged Squire, named Romandrin of Gaule, with whome he remained, till he came to the age of five yeres.

About this time the Quene travailed againe, and was deliuered of two godly Daughters being Twinnes, the one wherof was named Marcelina, and the other Florca: these swete babes were tenderly regarded in the Court, and there will we leaue them with the Quene their Mother, remembryng yong Palladine, who is in the custodie of graue and learned tutozs, entrusted in the Languages, as also Greeke and Latine, wherein he profited so well, as at tenne yeres he could speake them as perfect as his English tong. Herewithall he practised knightly Chualrie, to manadge great Hozses, and all Gentlemanlike exercises, searching the bowelles of the chæfest Historians, from them to learne the practises and sleights of Militarie profession. And when the time would not serue him to Walke and Hunt, he would keepe himselfe from idlenesse with his Lute, Bandoza and Virginalles, with diuers other swete Instruments, wherein he toke delight, and grew verie excellent.

This yong Prince thus giuen to all honest and vertuous qualitties, began to haue some feeling of his high and magnanimous spirit, so that to experiment and trie his owne strength, he would cope with diuers yong Lords & Gentlemen of his age, to runne in the Lisses, to breake Raunces, to Combate with the Pace, the Arming-Sword, and all other weapons, both on horsebacke, and on fote. In all which exercises, he found not his equall, which made him desirous of the order of knightood, to the end he might sake after strange Aduentures, as the King his Father had done in his youthfull time. Thus continued he

he lye oz seauen moneths in this desire, not daring to acquaint the King his Father therewith, least he should refuse his request in respect of his yong yeres, but the desires, who foresawe the marvellous deedes of Armes he should accomplish, and the strange enchauntments that should be finished by him, would not suffer him to remaine long soothfull in his Fathers Court among the Ladies and beautifull creatures, but bringing his desire to perfection, found the meane that he should be knighted by the King his Father, as hereafter you shall read moze at large.

CHAP. V.

¶ How the Duke Temorto of Millaine, sent his Sonne Manteleo into England, to be made Knight with the Prince Palladine, and how Manteleo became enamoured of the Princesse Marcelina.

During this time, the Duke of Millaine had a Sonne named Manteleo, a yong Prince, and of vertuous nature, brauely disposed to knightly resolutions, and being aged about eightene yeres. He hauing oftentimes heard the famous report, e- uery where bzuted of the Prince Palladine of England, and what a strange aduenture happened at his birth, which could not as yet be ended by any, was verie desirous to go see him, that he might be acquainted with the Prince so renowned. And one day finding the Duke his Father walking in his Garden, he came and kneeled before him, desiring licence for thre oz foure moneths, to trauaile into England, that he might be acquainted with the Prince Palladine, of so especial report, as also the wise and debonaire King Milanor his Father, with whome (quoth he) all Kings and Princes

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louers of vertue, haue euermore desired friendly alliance. Witnesse herof is the King of *Portugall*, the Kings of *Scots* and *Norgalles*, and diuers other Princes straungers: by his hand my Lord, so it stand with your liking, would I receiue my order of Knighthood, which he I hope will not denie me, in respect of his owne gracious humauitie, and the consideration he will haue of your person, when he shall vnderstand that I am your Sonne.

The Duke hearing his Sonne in these tearmes, was well pleased to behold him of so good a mind, and contented likewise to graunt what he demaunded, saying. In soth my Sonne, seeing *Fraunce* and *England* are now in peace together, the lesse do I doubt of thy going thither, and boldly mayst thou assure him, that he hath a perpetuall friend of me, determine then to depart when thou wilt, forthwith shall I giue order for thy prouision in trauaile: but returne not till thou hast tried the aduenture so renowned, which hapned before the Kings Pallace on the day of his Sonnes birth, and if thy good fortune may bring it to an end, well mayst thou intreate the King for the Order, in that thou shalt well deserue thy Knighthood, seeing so many haue fayled in triall thereof. Mantelco hauing humbly thanked the Duke his Father, for graunting him the thing he onely desired, said, I promise you my Lord, that I will not returne thence without proofe of my fortune, albeit I were sure to be repulsed more sharply then any hath bene heretofore: yet since the aduenture is so ordeigned, let me dye ere I be dishonored with feare or dismayng. Whereupon, the Duke called the maister of his Horse, to whome he gaue charge to prouide his Sonnes estate toward *England*, and that all things might be ready for his departure within three daies following: which was accordingly perfourmed, and so the Prince Mantelco with his trayne set forward from *Millaine*, in the weeke next after Pentecost, making such expedition in trauaile, as hauing passed the fairest Cities in *Fraunce*, which he was

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was desirous to see, he came to *Bullen*, where he took shipping, and with a merry gale of winde, in lesse then eightene houres, he landed in *England*.

The King Milanor aduertised of his arriual, was greatly contented therewith, commaunding in all the Townes where through he should passe, that he should be receyued and intreated honorably. And when he drew nere *London*, the Gouernours were charged to meete him on the way, the Prince Palladine likewise to welcome him at the Citie gates, and the King with his Quene and Ladies, remained at the Pallace to entertaine him. Euerie thing thus perfourmed in greatest maiestie, the Prince of *Millaine* was receiued with generall ioy of the Citizens, and the Prince Palladine accompanied with many great Lords of *England*, to whome Mantelco behaued himselfe with honorable modestie, as well he could his Courtship in those affayres, and riding along with the English Prince, he entred into these speeches.

The fame of so many lawdable vertues, accompanied with heroicall prowesse and magnanimitie, which amply are discerned in your dayly cogitations, hath earnestly prouoked me (good Prince) to be acquainted with you, for which onely occasion, I left my native Countrey, to see this Realme, euery where named happie, by the honorable regiment of the King your Father, whose vertues you imitate so effectually, as you remaine a wonder to them that neuer saw you. And long may good successe attend your dayly actions, heauen making me so fortunate, to winne acceptance in your eyes, in that I haue deuoted my selfe to cōsume of you about all other.

Sir Mantelco, answered the Prince Palladine, as I knowe my selfe farre vnworthie these titles of prayse, so am I perswaded, that your speeches proceed of good affection towards me, flying reports are oftentimes found untrue: yet do not I mislike your opinion of me, which hath sorted out the meane to see and knowe you in this Countrey.

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rey, as our honorable and well wishing friend. Of the King my Father haue I heard of your parents, and good acquaintance hath he had with the Duke your Father, when as a Knight errant he sought after adventures: assure your selfe therefore right welcome hither, and gladly shall I accept of you as my friend and companion. Thus beguiled they the time, til they came to the Wallace, where the Prince of Millaine stayed to behold the Statues, reading the deuises he had so long desired to see, whereat, not able to maruaile sufficiently, they went on into the great Wall, where the King embraced him verie louingly, the Princes and Lords likewise present, entertained him with exceeding kindnesse and humanitie, in that they had heard the King many times report, the worthie chualrie of the Duke of Millaine his Father.

After the King had welcomed this stranger with manyfold courtesies, and had vnderstood the cause of his coming to his Court, he sent him with the Prince Palladine to salute the Quene and her Daughters. But loue, whose puissance as yet he had neuer felt, finding time and opportunity so conuenient, when Mantelco had done his reuerence to the Quene, coming to the Princesses that attended on her, hauing kissed the first, named Marcelina: he found his senses so strangely inueigled, as he stode silent before her a prettie while, being not able to deliuer one word, so was he rauished with contemplation of her beautie. Which the Princess well noting, and imagining this passion to proceede by bashfulnesse, or feare, which oftentimes preuentis yong Gentlemen when they enter the presence of great Ladies, she tooke the Prince by the hand, and thus began.

My Lord, you are so welcome, as your owne hart can wish, great hath bene your payne and trauaile, coming so farre to see this Court, no sufficient recompence can the King our Father make you, nor we poore Ladies, for this exceeding kindnesse. These words forcing Mantelco to re-

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couer his spirits, caused him returne this aunswere.

In coming hither (swete Madame) haue I sustayned no paine or trauaile, but rather comfort, pleasure, and pastime. For long since is it, that I desired to offer my seruice to the King your Father, as well for the rare vertues which makes him farre renowned, as also to renew the auncient amitie, that you and the Duke my Father haue had together, when they as knightes errant trauailed strange Countreys. Another and chiefe cause, was to see my Lord your Brother, whose second in prouesse is not to be found: and you likewise faire Ladies, whom heauen hath not onely enriched with especiall vertues, but also with rare and most perfect beautie. And though my Starres allotted me no greater good hereby, then to behold the surpassing worke of nature in you both, yet would I repute my trauaile more largely requited, then were I created Emperour of the world, adioyning hereto, if any seruice remayned in me that might be to your liking.

During these speeches, he threw many piercing looks on the Princess Marcelina, and she returned the like on him, thinking she had neuer seene a more comely Knight in all perfections, her Brother Palladine excepted, gathering by his looks and yielding countenance, that she had wonne some earnest in his loue: with which imagination, her hart was highly contented, and to continue him in this good affection, she thus replied.

Not a little doo I think my selfe beholding to you, my good Lord, noting your forward zeale to the King my Fathers seruice: loth am I to presse you with such regard towards me, in that my deseruings are altogether too simple, let my good will then excuse my want, assuring your selfe of a maydens prayers wheresoeuer you go.

As Mantelco would haue answered, the Prince Palladine came, and thus brake off their talke. I beseech you my Lord and companion, to withdraw your selfe into your Chamber, there to repose your selfe after your iourney, for

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of necessitie you must be soze becaried, hauing spent so little time betwene *Milaine* and *England*.

Manteleo departed to his Chamber with Palladine, and in two lodgings ioyning together lay these new friends. There did the *Milayne* Prince cloath himselfe in braue and sumptuous garments, not forgetting the grauous speeches of sayze Marcelina, who likewise so soone as he departed, could not keepe in her owne opinions, but with her Sister fell in commendation of Manteleo: setting the loue of him so nere her heart, as she resolued neuer to haue any other Husband, so pleased the King and Quene to giue their consent. Continuing in this determination, thence forward her extreame desires made her pensiuie and solitarie, yet would she not impart her disease to any one, because she would first make triall of the Princes constancie, least his loue might be impeached with dissimbling dalliaunce.

But now is the houre of Supper come, when the amorous Prince Manteleo was placed at the table, right ouer against his beloued Marcelina, neither of them being offended at this good hap, but vsing the same as an especiall benefite, with secret glaunces to court each other. Which the Princesse Florea dilligently marked, and seeing her Sister so often to chaunge her couller, coupling therewith many bitten in sighes, she tofore hauing neuer shewed the like: became icalous of the matter, thinking the Prince should as soone affect her as her Sister, yet made she no outward shew of this conceite. But when the Tables were withdrawne, and each one preparing themselves to daunce, Manteleo tooke his Lady Marcelina, without making any offer to Florea, wherewith she became so much content: as to despight them, she would euery day after sit so nere them, as they could not speake one word to each other, but she might easily vnderstand what they said.

The Prince well noting how hee was cross, would the oftner entertaine Marcelina to Daunce, taking the benefite

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benefite at the end of each Measure, which gaue them libertie to conserre together, no one in those excused times being able to impeach them, wherewith Florea greatly repined, seeing them talke with such affectionate protestations.

The Pastimes ended, the King and Quene went to their lodgings, Manteleo humbly giuing them the good night, not forgetting the Saint he serued in desires, and afterward the Prince Palladine accompanied him to his Chamber, where after many other speeches betwene them, they concluded on the morrow to request their Knighthood of the King. So Palladine left Manteleo for that night, whose mind was busied with his Ladies favorable words, not doubting but to shew himselfe so forward in Armes, as the Princesse should receiue good occasion to affect him, and graunt him the honor he earnestly desired. In this good hope he laid him downe to rest, the Princesse Marcelina nothing inferiour to him in amorous opinions, and that night her brother Palladine had told her, that Manteleo and he would intreate their Order of the King, wherewith she was not alittle contented, determining thence forward, to entertaine the Prince of *Milaine* as her Knight.

CHAP. VI.

¶ How the Princes *Palladine* and *Manteleo*, with many other great Lords, were Knighted by the King *Milano*: and of an aduventure that happened in the Court, which *Palladine* and *Manteleo* ended.

AIRE Aurora chasing away the cloudy night, the Prince Palladine, accompanied with many Gentlemen, came to bid Manteleo good morrow. Welth: my Lord and companion, quoth he, it seemes you haue forgotten what we determined yesternight. Pardon me good Prince, answered

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swered Manteco, my memorie is not so short: but so sweetly haue I slept this night, as hindered me from rising sooner. Then went they to salute the King, and intreated his Highnesse to graunt them their knighthood. When his Maiestie perceiuing their forwardnesse, and noting the earnest desire of Manteco, thus answered.

Loth am I to denie your request, albeit as yet you are ouer-yong, but the good opinion I haue of your prowesse, and fortunate successe that may befall ye hereafter: doth supply your want of yeres, wherefore, this night performe the holy watch, and to morrow will I giue ye your Order. The two Princes humbly thanking his Maiestie, went to giue order for their Armour and furnitur, and at night they entred the Chappell, where spending the time in the accustomed religious exercise, they expect the houre of their long desired hono^r.

In the morning, the King with his Nobilitie entred the Chappell, and as he was busied in the Ceremonies vsed in such affaires, there entred two Damosels verie brauely apparelled, each of them hauing a goodly Sword in her hand, and with them was an armed knight: then one of the Damosels comming befoze the King, vpon her knee deliuered these speeches.

Mightie and renowned King, excelling in vertue all Princes liuing, vnderstand, that this knight my Brother, is enchaunted by a wicked Sorcerer, for not graunting to accomplish his carnall desire, so that since the time of his refusall, he hath not conuersed with any woman in the world, not with his owne Wife here present, but hateth all Women to the death, to the no little græfe of me and my faire Sister, seing her selfe so despised of her husband, without giuing any occasion of offence. And many Countreys haue we trauailed, to finde the man or woman that can end this enchauntment, yet hetherto haue we lost all our labour. But true it is, that as we passed through the lesser *Agipi*, we happened to meeete with an auncient Lady,

Lady, who gaue vs these two Swords, which (as she said) cannot be drawne by any, but by two knightes, the most valiant and loyall of their tunc. These worthie men shall vncharme this knight, and to them belong these Swords, being the best that euer were framed, and their names that shall draw these Swords out of their scabbards, are engraue on the weapons, yet not to be seene till they be drawne. Therefore right mightie King, we humbly intreate, that this sad aduventure may be tried by your knightes, for very often haue we heard, that this Court is stozed with men of greatest vertue.

If the King and all present, were amazed at the coming of the Damosels and the knight, much moze were they by hearing the reason of the enchantment.

In soth, said the Quene, I cannot but pittie the poore Gentleman, that for the carefull regard of his loyaltie, he should receiue so great discourtesie. Doubtlesse, quoth the King, he was a cruell villaine that enchaunted him on this occasion, and were he here, either would I cause him to end the enchauntment himselfe, or recompence him with his iust desarts. As for you Lady that are Sister to this knight, right gladly do I graunt what you haue requested, and neuer could you haue come in better time, for the greatest part of the knightes in our Realme are here at our Court, besides, diuers other am I presently to endue with the Order, which being done, they shall all trie their fortune in this aduenture. Whereupon, the newe knightes were immediatly dubbed, and each after other laboured to pull forth the enchaunted Swords, which they could not stirre the length of halfe a fote, except Orli-man of *Flaunders*, and Durandell of *Ciene*, who drew them wel-nere to the middest.

The new knightes Palladine and Manteco, seing no one could altogether vnscath them, toke the Swords to trie what they were able to do, and they drew them forth so easily as they had bene their owne weapons, each one reioysing

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reioysing the aduenture was ended, especially Marcelina, who by this first prooffe perceiued, what knightly bountie and loyaltie remained in her friend. The Damoisels being glad of this good hap, the knightes Sister thus spake to the King.

But is not this all Sir, so it may stand with your liking, my brother must dub these knightes with these Swords, and they are to graunt him one request, which he shall afterward demand of them. For that I am content, sayd the King, but let vs see whose names are engrauen on the Swords. Palladine shewed his to the King, and thereon was engrauen in great Romane Letters these words, Palladine of Aquilea, whereat he was both ioyfull and amazed, that the Surname of Aquilea was giuen to Palladine. For Aquilea was a Realme vnder the gouernment of the Pagans, and Palladine was a Christian, nor could he tell what to imagine hereof, but desired Mantecio to shew his Sword: whercon was engrauen in the like Characters, Mantecio the Millaynois, which made him equall with his companion in gladnesse, but most of all faire Marcelina, in whose brest loues fire more and more enkindled.

The strange knight feeling himselfe released from enchantment, tooke the Swords, and therewith gaue the Order to the two Princes, afterward thus speaking to them. Will yee (my Lords) graunt me now one bene? What shall we Sir, quoth they, the King hath already promised, we must not then denie it. By request is, sayd the knight, that you would depart hence with me within these thre dayes, and accompanie me to the place whither I shall conduct yee. Whereof will we not faile, answered Palladine, so please yee to set forward to morrow. Not so, quoth the King, you must forethinke in what equipage you are to depart hence, as also what companie you must haue with yee: beside, I will that the Knight and the Ladies rest themselves awhile in our Court.

If Palladine was ioyfull to follow aduentures, you must

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must thinke Mantecio was as soze, seeing he must so some forsake his Marcelina, who hauing likewise heard what was concluded, shewed by the change of her vermillion collour to pale and wan, how greatly this seperation displeased her, deuising by what meanes she might hinder this voyage.

Mantecio beholding the teares in his Ladies eyes, imagined the cause, and thereby her earnest affection towards him, which touched him inwardly with such assaults, as feeling a sudden weakenesse to surprize him, he was forced to leane on his Squires shoulder, whereat the King maruailing, said. How now Sir Mantecio? are you not well? In sooth my Lord, quoth he, neuer was I in so strange an alteration before. I perceiue said the King the cause hereof, these Ladies aduenture hath kept you too long fasting, high time is it that you had some refection. The Prince was contented to allow this fit excuse, least otherwise his secret loue should be disclosed. Let vs to meate then, sayd the King, so long fasting is hurtfull, and mine owne stomacke telles me that it is dinner time.

CHAP. VII.

¶ Of the feast was made, after the two Princes *Palladine* and *Mantecio* were Knighted, and how they tried the aduenture of the Statues, which they could find.



So departed the King from the Chappell, and in the great Hall the Tables were couered for dinner, where wanted no store of choise and daintie delicacies, exceeding the rather at this time, for the honor of the new made knightes. The Prince Mantecio sat in his wonted place before Marcelina, but unhappy

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was it for her, that her Sister Florea sat so nere her, who still remained suspicious of their silence, by which occasion, these tormented louers durst not speake to each other, but all dinner time with humble and affectionate regards, they deliuered the secret messages of their hearts. When the Tables were withdrawne, some falling to dauncing, and others to deuise with their Ladyes: by good hap, one of the new Knightes, being one of the chiefeft Lords in the Court, intreated the Princesse Florea to daunce, meane while the *Millanois* had leysure to courte his mistress.

Tell my good Lord, quoth she, is there no remedie but we must lose your companie within these thre dayes: beleeue me, little did I thinke you would haue left vs so soon. Assure your selfe Madame, said the Prince, there is nothing can be more displeasing to me, but in respect, I cannot with honestie, and without great impeach to mine honoz, gain-say the matter so absolutely promised, let me intreate ye not to misdeme of any thing. And here I vow by the religious faith I owe to your excellencie, that hither will I returne againe so soon as I can possible. Beside, if the Knight whome we must accompanie, shall offer to stray farre from this Realme, some sufficient excuse will I finde to forsake his companie. Meane while, let me intreate ye to afford me thus much fauour, to accept me as your Knight and seruant: and if as yet I haue deliuered no desert, whereby I might attaine to such a tipe of happinesse, I hope such shall be my behauiour hereafter, as you shall haue no cause to repent your gift.

Ah my Lord, quoth she, such soueraigntie haue you gained ouer my thoughts, as nothing can I refuse, what you with honoz request: I accept you then as my Knight (with which words she tooke a rich Diamond from her finger) in signe whereof, take this icwell, and weare it for my sake wherefoeuer you come hereafter. He taking the ring with exceeding reuerence, thus answered.

Swaste Madame, most humbly doe I thanke ye for this fauour,

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faour, which I will keepe as mine owne life. And needlesse is it for you to giue me any thing, whereby I might the better remember ye, for so liuely is your diuine figure imprinted in my hart, that no fortune, how good or bad so euer, can haue power to blemish or deface. As she was about to aunswere, the King started from his chaire, and coming to the Prince Manteco, sayd, Better leysure to daunce shall we haue after supper, let vs now go see our yong Knightes in the Listes, to trie if since their order was giuen, their strength is impaired or increased.

Then ceased the instruments and the dauncing, the Knightes going all to arme themselves, each one verie ioyfull of this occasion, but especially the Prince Manteco, for the great desire he had to be seene in the Joust, yet remembering the aduenture of the Statues, saine would he trie his fortune there ere he entred the Listes, and mouing the King thereof, his Maiestie liked it very well, who with the Prince, and all the Courtly assistants, came to their wonted Scaffold, when the Prince Palladine was the first that aduentured for the Shield, saying. I haue heard that such as laboured to win this Shield, haue bene verie sharply repulsd by this Statue, but I thinke it was through want of demanding licence to take it, therefore will I reason with the keeper thereof, to knowe if this Shield be destenied to me. So aduancing himselfe to the Statue, armed at all points verie brauely, he thus spake. Suffer me (faire Image) to take this Shield downe without the Combate, or if I may not haue it otherwise, determine to defend thy selfe. The Statue made in resemblance of a sawadge man, thus replied. I will not Combate with one so yong, and a Knight so vncperienced as thou art, therefore I counsell thee to go make proofe of thy bountie elsewhere, then will I deale with thee in Combate, otherwise, neuer thinke to win this Shield. I so well said Palladine to Manteco, that the end hereof was not reserved for me. Try (my Lord) if your fortune be
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any better then mine. Whereupon, Manteleo mounted the Steps, thinking to go take downe the Shield, but the Statue thrust his hand before it, saying. For is it (as yet) for thee, that thou shouldest attempt to take this Shield, it behoues thee to be much more exercised in armes, and therefore content thy selfe. Good reason haue I to thinke, said Manteleo, that I haue not as yet merited so high a guerdon, by reason of my insufficiencie in martiall affaires, therefore I will presume no further: but in the aduventure of Cupid: predestinated to the most loyall, after you Sir Palladine will I hazard my selfe.

By my faith, quoth the Prince, I will not meddle with him, for (as yet) I haue nothing to do with the God of Loue, nor know I what puissance he hath ouer humane creatures, therefore will I stand forth of his reach. The like may I say, quoth Manteleo, yet will I attempt to win his portrait: so giuing a piercing glaunce on the Princesse Marcelina, he drew his Sword, and with resolute assurance approached the Statue, who presently snatching his sauchion from his side, resisted him in such sort, as betwene them was a long and doubtfull Combate, to the great admiration of the King and all present. Yet maugre the peasant strokes of the brayen Image, he attained to the highest step of all, each one then thinking that Cupid was his owne: but so weightie were the cruell charges of the Statue, as he was enforced to fall downe backward in a swoone, to the great græfe of the King, Quene, and Palladine, but chiefly of Marcelina, who seeing his Armour broken in so many places, and the blood (as she thought) to issue from him so abundantly, perswaded her selfe that he had perished by his ghost. Ah gentle Prince, quoth she to her selfe, if thou be dead, I am the onely cause thereof, for well I know, that for my loue thou didst enterprise this aduventure, to dare hast thou bought thy coming into England and the earnest affection thou didst beare to me.

While Marcelina continued these regrets, the Prince Palladine

Palladine with other Knightes recovered Manteleo, and vnarming him, perceiued he was not wounded at all, but weary and ouer-trauailed, with so long resisting the cruell blowes of the Image, whereon could none of the Princes strokes be discerned, though the clanching of his weapon made a wonderfull noise. Manteleo finding himselfe fresh and lustie, would haue returned againe to the Statue, but the King stayed him with these words.

He thinks (my Lord) you haue done enough already, let others now haue time for their triall. At which speeches, the other Knightes followed as their turnes came, each one being as roughly handled as the Prince Manteleo: who græued that he had not ended the aduventure, thinking that Marcelina would withdraw her affection, reputing him unworthie her loue, that could deliuer no better profe of his loyaltie. And in truth at the first she was iealous thereof, but in the end she perswaded her selfe, that such a hidden vertue could not be discerned in a man, untill he receiued the sweetes of loue by his Lady, which opinion made her zeale more vehement to the Prince.

The King seeing the day was verie farre spent, referred the rest of the sports till the morrow, when Manteleo had good hope to recouer his honoz in the Joust, to the especiall good liking of his Lady and mistresse. So the King with his Lords returned to the Pallace, and the Knightes hauing vnarmed themselves, came into the Chamber of Presence, where the Prince deuising with his faire Goddess, with many perswasions excused his bad successe, which she could not but take in good part, considering that intire loue couers all occasions of dislike.

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CHAP. VIII.

¶ How *Manteleo* won the honor of the Tournament, and vanquished two strange Knights.

Now is the day come, when the yong knightes should shew themselves in open field, except the Prince *Manteleo*, who excused himselfe by riding on hunting, and therefore borrowing his friend *Palladines* hounds, left the Court, causing his horse and armour to be secretly conveyed to a keepers Lodge, which was a mile and more from the Citie, because he would not haue any one knowe what he intended. Meane while the Toustes began, the King maruelling at the absence of *Manteleo*, especially *Palladin* and faire *Marcelina*, who missing her friend at dinner, imagined he was gone without bidding her adieu, and the occasion thereof to be, because he had failed in the aduventure of *Cupid*.

The Champions coming into the field, the foremost were *Mutiell* of *Rosbeck*, and *Brunifort* his brother, on the other side came *Durandell* of *Cleue*, and *Orliman* of *Flumders*, with all their companie in seemely equipage. When the Verals had commaunded the knightes to their deuoir, *Mutiell* and *Durandell* gaue the spurs to their horses, and after they had broken thre Launces a pece with braue chivalrie, at the fourth encounter they met together so furiously, as they were both cast forth of their saddles to the ground. Next followed *Brunifort* and *Orliman*, who dismounted each other at the first attaint, but *Brunifort* recovered his horse againe quickly, when *Sedonis* Sonne to the Duke of *Suffolke* had him play, yet accompanied *Orliman* in his misfortune. Whereupon, Grinday Sonne

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come to the Duke of *Orton*, reuenged his fellowes wrong, and such valour they shewed on either side, as the honor of the day was giuen to them, the King with all his Nobles being readie to depart: when suddenly entered the Lystes two strange knightes in white Armour, resembling each other, the one bearing in his Shield thre Griffons Sable volant, in a feld Argent, the other, thre Griffons Argent in a Sable feld.

After these knightes had shewen many carres, and braue voltages with their horses before the Ladies, one of them encountred *Brunifort* with such courage, as he was throwne to the ground with his heeles upward: the like successe had *Mutiell*, *Orliman*, and the rest, to the no little admiration of the King and all the Ladies, and great veneration of *Palladine*, who would not Toust, because his companion *Manteleo* was not there.

As the King was about to depart, giving the prize to these two strange knightes, there entered the Lystes another Champion in white Armour, bearing in his Shield a Hart Queller, bound with a golden chaine, and without making any reuerence, or shewing any brauadoes with his horse, he met one of the strange knightes so roughly, as he was sent to measure his length on the ground. The other strange knight, to reuenge his fellowes iniurie, came courageously against this new come knight, and after the breach of two or thre Launces, was sent to kepe his friend companie, whereat not a little enraged, he drew his sword, and coming to the knight, said. I confesse Sir, that thou hast the maistrie ouer me at the Launce, let me now try my fortune better or worse in Combate. Where to the other willingly consented, but the King intercepted them, saying. Not so Gentlemen, I will not that any Combate shall now be fought, in respect the Toust was ordeyned for pleasure, and to exercise our knightes to delight their Ladies: enough therefore is done for this day, let anger ceasse betwene yee, and friendly embrace each other,

other, letting me vnderstand of whence you are, that I may do you the honoꝝ you haue deserued. With right good will my Lord, answered the vanquished knight, my companion and I are friends with this knight, who deserves great estimation for his worthie prowesse. As for our names, and of whence we are, I am called Landallines, Sonne to the King of Norgalles: and my friend is named Simprinell, Sonne to the King of Scots.

When the King Milanor, and the Prince Palladine had knowledge of the knightes, they came from the Scaffold, and embraced them with exceeding courtesie: but when they knew the Conquerour to be Manteleo, I leaue their marvellous ioy to your imaginations. As it true my Lords: quoth the King, haue you stollen such an occasion to expresse your valour? Your Maestie knowes, answered Manteleo, that I am but newly knighted, and therefore but little experienced in Armes, nor durst I discover my selfe before your Highnesse, least my fortune should haue proued as contrary as it did yesterday, which you must imagine I take discontentedly. You neede not feare hereafter, said the King, to shew your selfe in chiefe places of Chualrie, in that a beginning so good and fortunate, must needs in continuance be as prosperous. Whereupon, the three knightes verie louingly embraced each other, swearing a perpetuall league of amitie betwene them, which they religiously held irrevocable, as in the discourse of our historie you may behold.

Manteleo hauing saluted the Quene and her Ladyes, Palladine came to welcome his friend, rebuking him for not acquainting him with his intent: which he excused as he did to the King, hauing more mind to regard his sweete Distresse, then to be entertained with all these ceremonies. And you must thinke her loyes were beyond common conceit, seeing her knight returned whom she feared was lost: nor was she so suspitious at his repulse against the God of loue, as she was now jealous of his honorable successe.

These

These *bien venues* and embracings passed ouer, the King and all of them returned to the Pallace, where the two new-come princes had their lodgings appointed, Palladine and Manteleo keeping them companie, recounting the aduenture of the two Damofels and the enchanted knight: with whome on the morrow they were to depart. Therefore they spent that night in dauncing and courtlye disports, the Princes of Norgalles and Scots deuising with the Ladies, wherewith the Court of England was plentifully stored, and whome they commended to excell all other nations in beawtie.

CHAP. IX.

How the Princes Palladine, and Manteleo, departed from London, with the Knight that was enchanted and the two Damofels, and what happened to them by the way.



At the morrow early in the morning, Palladine and Manteleo armed themselves, & with the knight that was enchanted and the two Damofels; they came and took their leave of the King and Quene: afterward they went to the young Princes chamber, where Muchina perceiving her knight would needs be gone, brake forth into teares and sad regrets. What means you Sir, quoth Palladine to our departure displeasing to you? Not so good brother, answered she, but I doubt least your returne should be hindered by any misfortune, for you are as yet but young, and little acquainted with the contrary nature of straunge Countreys. I confesse that Sir, quoth Palladine but every one must haue a learning, beside, you know our promise to this knight

contrayneth vs hereto, nor would I for all the world breake my word: as for our returne, perswade your selfe it will be sooner then you imagine. I assure y^e thereof. *Pa-*
dame, sayd the knight that was enchanted, for I will not leade them farre from this Realme, nor into any place of danger. Mantelco had his heart so scaled vp with griefe, beholding his mistresse to shed so many teares, as he was not able to speake one word, whereby Palladine presently gathered suspition, that secret loue betwene them had caused this chaunge, wherefore, bidding his Sisters adieu, he departed the chamber with the knight and the Damosels, leauing Mantelco to say what further he would, but griefe brake him off with these speeches. You knowe *Madame* what I haue promised, with which words, the teares trickling downe his cheekes, he kissed her, and the *Princesse* *Flora* likewise, and so went to seeke Palladine, whome he found readie mounted with their Squires at the Court gate.

So departed these two companions in armes with their trayne, with resolution before their returne, to make the world aquainted with their bountie and promise: chesely Mantelco for the loue of his *Marcelina*, who presently after her *Lord*s departure, withdrew her selfe alone into her Cabinet, and continuing her teares, breathed forth these sad laments.

Oh loue, who euer thought thy strength to be of such puissance, so violent hath thine entrance borne into my hart, as impossible is it for me to liue long, vnlesse my lord all friend giue me remedie, for none but he can giue me remedie. Alas, why is it not permitted vs to trauaile strange Countreys as well as men: had fortune so fauoured our sere, thou shouldst not (sweete friend) be long without me, but miserable is our conditio[n] to be thus subiect. Many other amorous complaints made the sorrowfull *Marcelina*, whom we will now leaue, and returne to the *Princes*, being scant a mile on their way: when Pal-
ladine

ladine intreated the knight that was enchanted, to tell him whether they should trauaile, of whence he was, how, and wherefore he had bene enchanted.

My Lord, answered the knight, right gladly would I satisfie your demaund, but hardly can I recount my infortunes without extreame griefe, so greatly doth the verie remembrance thereof displease me: therefore I pray y^e be contented that my Sister be the reporter heereof, for well can she reueale euery accident. Trust me, sayd Palladine, and well it liketh me to heare her speake: so riding along, and the Damosell betwene them, she began her discourse in this manner.

Seeing it pleaseth you to vnderstand the fortunes of this knight, willingly will I discouer them vnto you, being farre otherwise then I rehearsed in the presence of the King, on the day when you receyued your knighthood: but the cause why I so disguised the truth, was through feare lest his *Maiestie* would haue hindered your going with vs. Vnderstand then, that this knight my Brother, this Lady my Cousin, and my selfe, were all thre borne in the Realme of *Hungaria*, at what time it was vnder the gouernment of the great Turke. My Brother was there married to one of the most beautifull Ladies in the Countrey, and dwelt in a small Tillage on the frontiers of the Realme, where a Gentleman (much about your yeeres) fell in acquaintance with him, the continuance whereof bred such amitie betwene them, as my Brother intreated him to lodge in his house, and two of his next kinsmen with him. But in an unhappie houre chaunced this friendship, for this Gentleman too vn courteous for this great kindnesse, seeing my Brothers wife so perfect in beautie, became enamoured of her in such sort, as he onely desired the knowledge of her, forgetting the honor and regard of his friendly hoste. Yet could not intreaties, sollicitings, gifts and faire promise, obtaine that of her he thirsted after, wherefore despairing of his successe, he went to a

Softerer, who gaue him a drugg of such force, as should deprive my Sister of her speech, by meanes whereof, he might rauish her, or carie her whether him pleased, she being not able to defend her selfe, or call for any ayde. This Gentleman hauing entrusted his two kinsmen in the matter, came one night into my Sisters chamber, and being assured that my Brother and his seruants slept soundly, tooke her thence against her will, afterward giuing her to his friends, who caried her thence into a Ship was ready to set sayle. In short time they had gotten whether they would, landing at a strong Castell belonging to this Gentleman, where, though he had her in his custodie, yet could he obtayne nothing but refusalls, and sharpe disdaines, yet in time he imagined to make her more tractable. My Brother in the morning seeing his wife and guests thus gone, suspected the ill that happened, for diuers that met them toward the Sea, came and told him what they sawe, whereupon, he tooke this iniurie so grievously, as he was euen at the point to despaire. *Ab. All* For all Traytor (quoth he) is this the recompence for my god will to thee: for the honoꝝ and good entertainment thou hast had in my house, dost thou reward me with this villanie: Come my friends, let vs follow them, and either by fire, water, or weapons, destroy the adulterer, that hath thus robd me of my onely delight. May it be (swate wife) that this happened with thy consent: couldst thou serue him so y^e loued thee as his life: no, well may I be assured of thy loyalty. An Aunt of ours, who sometime was wife to a sage Jigromancer, seeing my Brother wel-near beside himselfe, such was his griefe for the losse of his wife, tooke pittie on him, and to preuent the ill which she foresaw was like to ensue, she wrote a letter to a wise matrone in the Realme of *Anglon*, commaunding vs to carie it to her, and that my Brother should trauaile thither with vs, which we did, finding the good old Lady where the Letter directed vs, which was in a little Desert of

mountaines,

mountaines, hauing no other habitation then in the caue: which seemed olde and greatly ruinated, in the middlest wherof was a fountaine, ouershadowed with the boughes of a great Elme tree. So soone as she beheld vs, she commaunded for the Letter we brought, which when she had read, she commaunded vs to rest our selues by the fountaine, while she went into her Caue for the two Swords you now enjoy, and returning, she bathed them in the fountaine, numbling certaine speeches softly to her selfe, and comming to vs, sayd. See heere Ladies two Swords, which can be drawne out of their sheathes by none, except the two best knightes in the world, by whose assistance this Gentleman shall recouer his losse, and be reuenged on the Traytor that thus wronged him. Take these Swords with y^e, and search the Courts of Kings and most renowned Princes, to finde those gentle knightes excelling in vertues, and them twaine that can draw forth these Swords, shall you conuert to the place where the Lady abideth, for whome this noble Gentleman is so tormented, to whome (for her sake that sent y^e) will I presently giue such a remedie, as shall diminish part of the griefe he endureth. So giuing vs the two Swords, with a little white wand she smote three blowes on the Elme tree, from whence flew forth a Bird crying very pitifully: then with the wand she troubled the water in the fountaine, vsing certaine priuate speeches againe, and taking a little of the water in her hand, she dreined it on my brothers head, saying. Now go and commend me to your Aunt, and to the two knightes that shall draw the Swords, to whome I will that thou giue the order of knighthood, to the ende their vertue, courage, and magnanimitie may be increased. So left we the old Lady, and euer since followed her commaundement, making a bootlesse search in many places, till we found you to whome the aduenture was destined. And thus (my Lords) haue you heard the entire discourse of my Brothers misfortune. Now as concerning

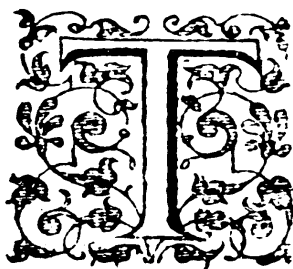
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What

what remaineth, we must conduct ye into *Hungaria*, to the Castell where my faire Sister is enclosed, and where the villaine abideth that stole her from my Brother. Yet is her honoꝝ preserved from any attaint, for as the *Traytoꝝ* one day would haue rauished her, mine Aunt (of whome I spake) by aduenture came thither, and hauing throwne the paillard out of the chamber by the shoulders, enchanted the same in such sort, as none may enter therein but my Brother, nor can he come there but by your ayde. A dole of such honoꝝ and charitie I hope you will not refuse, in reuenging our wrong on that maleuolent villaine, which shall be easie for you to doe, as the aforesaid wise prophete declared to vs. The Princes hauing heard this monstrous treason, thus answered. We will assist ye faire Lady to our uttermost, nor shall ye neede to whet vs on with perswasions, for we are bound by dutie to reuenge actions so foule and enoꝝme. For this kinde replie, he gaue them many thanks, spending the time in these and like conferences, and two daies rode they without any aduenture worthe the rehearfall.

CHAP. X.

¶ How *Palladine* and *Manteleo* met foure Knightes, with whome they Combatted, and the issue thereof.



On the third day, as the Princes with their companie issued forth of a thick wood, they met four knightes, of whome (after courteous salutations) *Palladine* demaunded whether they trauailed. Directly towarde *London*, answered one of them, where the King abideth as we vnderstand. And the cause of our iourney thether, is to trie an aduenture of two Swords, which not

not long since were caried thither, vnable to be dialyne by any, but by two of the best knightes in the world.

If you go for no other occasion, answered *Palladine*, well may ye spare that labour, for two yong knightes ended the aduenture two dayes since and more.

Two yong knightes? quoth another of them, of what Countrey I pray ye? The one, said *Palladine*, is an *Englishman*, and the other an *Italian*, boꝝne in *Millyane*. By my faith, quoth the knight in a great laughter, belike then the enchantment was no hard matter to finish, nor was any hidden vertue to be discerned therein, when an *Italian* and an *Englishman* could bring it to ende. Very fewe good knightes are founde among the *Italians*, in whome is more ostentation and brauadoes, then matter of moment and effect: and in *Englishmen* is much lesse, being reputed in all Countreys for men of little estimation.

The two yong Princes hearing their Countreys so dispraised, began to growe in maruailous choller, especially *Manteleo*, who bending the browes, and enflamed with inquerchable anger, thus answered. Of whence are you Sir, that can so well collaude the knightes of *England* and *Italy*? What moues you to vse such speeches, being in the Kingdome you discommend? Trust me, if you haue any wit, you make no shew thereof in your words. Be not angrie, answered the knight, I see by your couller that you sweate in your Armour: but if ye continue this mode, you haue met with *Spaniards* that will walke ye a little. And here haue you met an *Englishman* and an *Italian* sayd *Manteleo*, euen they that ended the aduenture of the enchanted Swords, who presently will teach ye to temper your tong.

With these words, he went to his squire for his Launce, placing it to encounter him that gaue the speeches, but *Palladine* called to him, saying: Forbeare my Lord, and let me deale with him, for I ought to begin first, because the offence was first made to me. Before, they are in
me

my Countrey, it belongeth then to me to correct their folly, making by p[ro]ofe what an *Englishman* is able to do. If you see me stand in neede of your helpe, doe as you shall finde occasion, otherwise, let me alone with these lusty *Spaniards*. Palladine without any further speeches, with a braue carriere encountred the prating companion, who, though he brake his Launce with good courage on the Prince, was throwne with such violence from his horse, as he lay not able to stirre hand or foote. Which when the other three beheld, they ran altogether against the Prince, who gaue the foremost such a frendly welcome, as falling on his head to the ground, brake his necke with the weight of his owne bodie. The other twaine (at this encounter) had broken their Launces on Palladine, and now drew their Swords, thinking to reuenge their fellows ill fortune: but greatly did they finde themselves deceived, for the Prince seeing he had no more to deale withall then these two, redoubled so many fierce strokes vpon them, as the one fell out of his Saddle deprived of his senses, and the other to saue his life, would haue fled away: the Prince disappoynting him of that benefit, by hamstringing his horse, caused him to fall to the earth, when snatching off his Helmet, with his Sword would haue smitten his head from his shoulders. Alas Sir Knight, cried the vanquished *Spaniard*. saue my life, I yeld my selfe to thy mercy: what I haue done against thee, was in reuenge of my Brother whom thou first dismounted: accused be the houre that he spake so vnderetly, this is not the first time I haue endangered my life, onely to sustaine his fond and overfolish quarrels. Mercie I graunt thee, answered Palladine: so thou promise and sweare to fulfill one thing, which is, that so soone as thy woundes are healed, thou shalt go to the King of *Englands* Court, there submitting thy selfe to his will and mercie. And thou shalt say to him, that the two Knights which departed thence with two Ladies, and a Knight who was there deliuered from imprisonment, a reuerent

reuerent wise salate his Maestie, hauing sent thee to be disposed at his pleasure. Moreover, thou shalt not faile to tell him the cause, why we sent thee in this sort to his highnesse. The like declaration shalt thou make before the Quene, and her two Daughters Marcelina, and Florca. All this will I gladly accomplish answered the *Spaniard*, but as for my Brother, and the other Knights, I thinke they will neuer passe further, for by ought I can perceiue, there is no signe of life left in them. They haue no more, answered Manteleo, then they worthily deserved, ought they to mispraise or detract strange Knights, chiefeely such as are of one nation: yet let vs see in what estate they are. So coming to the Knight that was first dismounted, and finding him dead, by reason of the abondance of blood he had lost, as also because his Helmet hindered him from the aire: Unhappy man, said his Brother, ostentines haue I told thee, that thy pride and ouerweening would one day cause thy death. Be thou warned hereby, sayd the enchanted Knight, and leaue another time to vse more courtesie to knights, how yong or oid soeuer they be: for thou and thy companions did imagine, that because these two yong Princes were no further entred i yeres, that therefore they were vnprovided of courage and vertue, but by outward behauiour neuer iudge of men hereafter. How will doe I perceiue your words are true, but I beseech ye looke if my Cousin haue accompanied my Brother in death, or no. Palladine finding them to be aliue, offered with his Sword to haue smitten off their heads. Villaines (quoth he) you are but dead men: if you will redeme your liues, you shall promise me to go submit your selues to the King of *Englands* mercie, recounting to him wherefore, how, and by whom you haue bene vanquished. Sir, answered one of them, there is nothing that we will not gladly promise and performe, for the ransom of our liues, and therefore I sweare to you, that I shall not faile whilst you haue continued. You shall a-
much

uouch the like quoth the Prince to the other knight, whereupon, he that was so sore hurt with his fall from his horse, could make no answer but by signes, so that with many sad countenances he shewed his consenting. Now may ye depart when ye please, said Palladine, and say, that *Englishmen* are better knightes then *Spaniards*. So hauing buried the knight that was slaine, they departed, not a little glad they were so well escaped, but they took small care of performing their promise, as you shall perceiue by the sequell of our historie.

CHAP. XI.

¶ How Palladine and Manteco with their company, arrived in the Realme of Hungaria, where the Gentleman remayned that stole the Lady from the enchanted Knight, and what fortun'd to them by the way.



After the Princes had left the *Spaniards*, they rode on their journey, and coming to the port of *Gorforte*, they took shipping when the Seas were still and calme, expecting a winde to passe into *Holland*. Which sitting their expectations, crossing through *Zeland*, they came to *Triell*, where Palladine furnished himselfe

with new Armour, because his other was greatly battered in fousling with the knightes.

Hauing contented themselves with the sight of *Holland*, they passed the *Rheme*, and entred *Almayne*, where arriving on the frontiers of *Bohemia*, they beheld a Lion coming toward them, carrying a yong Infant (wrapped in swadling clothes) in his mouth, and a yong woman running after the beast, with verie pitifull cries and acclamations. Behold (quoth Palladine) how a sauadge beast

hath gotten a yong Infant, let vs alight, to see if we can force him to goe his pray. The poore woman seeing how readie they were to helpe her, cryed aloud to them, that they should get betwene the Lion and his Caue, least (entering with the child) there should remaine no hope of recovery.

When the Lion saw he could not enter his denne, he let fall the Infant, and furiously assailed the Prince Manteco, who gaue the beast such a wound on the head, as made him cry and rore very dreadfully. At which noyse, a Lionesse came forth of the Caue from her yong ones, and she likewise ranne on the noble Manteco, but Palladine and his Squires so valiantly assisted him, as the beastes were in short time overcome and slaine. Then came the poore woman and took vp her child, which when she beheld had escaped all daunger, on her knees she humbly thanked the Princes for their good assistance. One of the Damoisels taking the child in her armes, and seeing it both beautifull and comely, said to the mother. Great had bene the losse good woman, that these cruell beastes should haue deuoured so swete an Infant: but why were you so negligent to endaunger it so much?

Madame, answered the poore woman, not by my fault did this inconuenience happen, for I earning my liuing by dayly labour, by binding faggots which my husband cuts in the wood, left my child with one of my neighbours in keeping. How she suffered this mishap, I know not, but as I returned from the wood, and meeting the Lion with my child, which full well I knew by the swadling clothes, I made what haste I could after the beast, hoping by some meanes to recover my child, which now (I thanke God and you) I haue done. For is this the first time we haue bene thus serued: for in this little Tillage, being but tenne or twelue households in number, three children haue bene lost within these sixe moneths, the parents still thinking some Wozes or peasants had stolen them, but now in

good time haue wee founde the These. And seeing these Gentlemen haue slaine the Lion and Lionesse, it may be they haue some yong ones in this Caue, which I gladly would haue destroyed likewise, so shall we be in no further daunger hereafter. That will I soone trie, said Palladine: go to your house, and fetch me some fire, and withall bring some sheaues of thashed coyne, for Lions cannot abide the sight of fire, and by this meane shall we see what is in the darke Caue.

Right soone did the woman accomplish her charge, bringing strawe and fire with her, and sixe or seauen sturdy fellowes, with staues, flayles, and pikeforkes: when Palladine hauing set the strawe on fire, with the countrey peasants entred the Caue, where he found three yong Lionesses like little dogs, and the clothes of diuers children deuoured by the beasts. So behold this strange sight, he called the two Damosels, and the poore woman into the Caue, saying: These beastes should haue dined with your child to day, but God hath appointed his end in better sort, and because you shall remaine in no further dread of these yong ones, were I not so farre from *England*, I would send them to the King, who I am sure would accept them for our sakes. My Lord, quoth one of the poore countrey men, I will undertake to fulfill your mind in this, and will carie them to *England* if you please to commaund me: full well doe I knowe how to vse them, for my father nourished one like to these a long time, and when it grew great, he gaue it to our King, who sent it as an especiall present to the King of *France*. In sooth, quoth the Prince, if thou wilt performe what thou hast promised, I will giue thee money to defray thy charges, and theirs likewise whome thou wilt take with thee. Letters will I also send by thee, to safe-conduct thee on the way, and that thou mayst be welcome into *England*. Whence thou canst not returne without sufficient recompence. Of that my Lord I haue no doubt, answered the poore man, for oftentimes haue

haue I heard reported, that the King *Milamor of England*, is one of the most vertuous Princes on the earth: and though I receiued no other benefits by him, I would account my labour well bestowed, onely to see a King accounted so famous. Beside, such great good haue you done vs, in killing these rauinous and dangerous beastes, as in signe of our willing mindes, to make you further recompence if we were able, if the iourney were tenne times further, you should commaund vs. So comming forth of the Caue, the poore men provided Hanniars to carrie the yong beastes: in meane while, the Prince wrote to the King his Father, describing what had befallen them in their iourney, and what valour Manteleo had shewen in killing the Lions: not forgetting his salutations to the Princesse Marcelina, with all the other Ladies of the Court. Hauing sealed his Letters, he gaue them to the countreyman, and money sufficient to beare his charges, who taking his leaue of the Princes, in few dayes after set on his iourney toward *England*.

Palladine and Manteleo mounting on horseback, with their companie toke the way to *Hungary*, which at length they reached, lodging in a little Village, about a mile distant from the Castell where the Gentleman abode, who detaned the wife to the Knight that had bene enchained. There the Princes concluded to rest themselves that night, and on the morrow, the Knightes Sister should goe to accuse the Gentleman of Treason, and to knowe of him whether he would maintaine his cause man to man in Combate, or two against two, or three to three if he durst so accept it. Upon this determination they supped merrily together, Manteleo still remembryng his faire Marcelina, and Palladine his intended action of hono^r. So betaking themselves to rest, Palladine dreamed, that he beheld a goodly Lady before him, who vsing certaine speeches to him softly, layd her hand very kindly on his head, and so departing the chamber againe, made such a noyse, as he

awaked therewith. Long he studied what this Lady should be, but could not gette on any thing directly, wherefore he concealed his dreame to himselfe, albeit not long after he compassed his desire, as you shall at large behold hereafter.

CHAP. XII.

¶ How the Princes *Palladine*, *Manteleo*, and the enchanted Knight, fought the Combate with the Gentleman of the Castell and his two Brethren, and the successe therof.



My were the seuerall apparitions that these Princes had in their sleep this night, the one, of his loue in the Court of England, and the other of the Lady that thus had solicited him, wherein the enchanted Knight had likewise a share, remembering the wrong done vnto his wife, by the Traytor whom he had so friendly vsed in his house, the conceite of which ingratefull acte, presented him with many strange cogitations.

Early in the morning they all arose, and the Knightes Sister, accompanied with one of the Prince *Palladines* Squires, rode to the Castell where the Gentleman dwelt, to deliuer the message before determined. And finding him, sitting at the Castell gate, with two or thre of his seruaunts that attended on him: without vsing any courtesie or salutation, but with a stearne and angrie countenance, thus spake.

Well knowest thou, villaine as thou art, that violently thou didst carie away my Brothers wife, who lodged and entertained thee friendly in his house, wherefore I say to thee, that thou art the most vile and abiect creature liuing, hauing committed the greatest treason and disloyaltie, that euer was heard of a man toward his friend. A Knight

Knight will I bring, that to thy beard shall testifie what I haue said, by aduenturing his person in Combate against thee: or if thou thinke it conuenient, two against two, or thre to thre, so many will I bring hither before two houres are expired. The Gentleman abashed to heare a woman speake so brauely, she being accompanied but with one Squire, thus replied. I beseech (Damosell) it is not long since ye came from Paradise, for you are yet maruelous gloriois, but I hope ere night to qualify your pride, and him or them that dare bid me the Combate. And where thou chargest me with detaining a Lady, who (as thou sayest) is thy Brothers wife, here will I keepe her still, and hence shall she not go, till I haue had my pleasure on her. But to spend no time in prating with a faithles woman, go fetch the thre knights thou threatnest me with, all, and they shall finde here thre other, whereof my selfe will be one, say, we graunt them the Combate, and bid them loke they come well provided, for all their wit and strength I thinke will scant helpe them.

The Damosell and the Squire returned with this answer to the Princes, who hauing heard the Gentlemans mishap, presently mounted on horsebacke, and rode toward the Castell.

In this time, the Gentleman went into the Castell to his Brethren, and aduertised them of the Damosells challenge, whereupon, they immediately armed themselves, the Gentleman causing twentie of his seruants to be secretly ambushed, to succour him if his enemies were the stronger, and if they could not take them prisoners, then to murder them without any redemption.

By this time are the Princes and the enchanted Knight come to the Castell, where they found the thre Brethren staying their coming, and without any further speeches, they prepared to the carie, when *Palladine* would haue encountred the Gentleman of the Castell, but the enchanted Knight intreated him to the contrarie, saying,

saying. Let me trie my fortune with him, god Sir Knight, for he it is that hath murdered me, and now shall I be sufficiently auenged on him. Palladine was well contented it should be so, and while the knight gaue his horse the spurres to meete the Gentleman, he and Mantelco found his Betwixen play: so that after they had brauely broken their Launces, and fought a long and dangerous Combat with the sword, the Gentleman was throwne downe sore wounded, and his Betwixen were both slaine outright. Now (though too late) rushed forth the ambushed seruants, and they being twentie in number, set with such violence on the Princes and their Squires, as their horses were slaine under them, and themselves in vtry great danger of death, but that Lydisco the Prince of Hungaria, suddenly arrived there, so that day had he bene on hunting, and because the bordering Turkes did oftentimes marke the King his father, he seldom rode without armed knightes in his companie. When he beheld so many against so few, he commaunded his knightes to assist the weaker side, so that the greater part of them were slaine, and the rest thinking to saue their liues, fled into the Castell, yet were they so narrowly pursued, as they could not drawe the bridge, but were all taken, and reserved in prison for a further punishment.

The two Damosels glad of this happie victorie, humbled themselves before the Prince Lydisco, thanking him for this gracious assistance: the like did Palladine and Mantelco, confessing their liues preserved onely by his meares. Afterward, he requested to knowe the cause of their fight, which the knightes sister effectually discouered, whereupon, they went to seeke the Lady that was imprisoned, whome they could not tell where. To finde, tell a poore old Cardiner came vnto them, saying, that the key of the dungeon where she remained, his master alway kept at a string fastened about his necke, not trusting any one to see her but himselfe. Lydisco returning to the Gentleman,

man, found that he had some life left in him, wherefore taking the key from about his necke, and causing his men to bring him into the Castell, that further iustice might be shewen on him for his offence, by the old Cardiner, they were brought to the Ladies dungeon, where they found her so spent with griefe, and her faire face so martired with great effuse of teares, as would haue moued a stony hart to pittie her. How ioyfull the knight was to see his Lady, how glad she likewise was to behold her husband, I leave to the opinion of long absent true louers: yet this was her chiefest comfort, that her husband enioyed her againe, free from any spot of dishonour, and though she had endured long miserie, yet could not the villaine abuse her chastitie. Lydisco sent the trayterous Gentleman to the King his father, and with him other of the chiefest offenders, with letters describing their notorious villanie, whereupon, they were drawne in partes by wilde horses, as such a notorious offence full well deserved.

CHAP. XIII.

¶ How the wife Orbicomte appeared to Palladine in his sleepe: and what talke she had with him.

LYDISCO the Prince of Hungaria, hauing heard by the enchanted knight and the Ladies, the noble vertues of Palladine and Mantelco, remained still in the Castell with them, vsing them with vertic kinde and princely courtesie, being soie for certaine dangerous woundes they had receiued in fight, which he caused to be tended with carefull diligence.

The enchanted knight likewise told his Lady, the successe of his iourney into England, how he receiued the

Words of the wise Sorceresse, and how the two Princes (by drawing them) ended his enchauntment: they hauing at his request trauailed so farre, onely for her deliuerance from the cruell Gentleman. Now thankfull she shewed her selfe for their honorable paines, her great care in curing their woundes, and readie seruite to supply all wants, declared the vertues of so good a minde. Needlesse were it to tell ye, how Lydisco procured from the King his father many presents of good will to the Princes, and dayly accompanied them with his owne person; as the men in whome he most of all delighted: I shall therefore reuerale what happened to Palladine, while he attended the cure of his woundes in this Castell.

As one night the Prince lay soundly sleeping in his bed, the Lady that before had appeared to him, presented her selfe now to him againe, speaking to him in this manner. I know Sir Palladine, that I am a Pagan, named the wise Orbiconte. who though the affection thy vertues cause me beare thee, am come to aduertise thee, that I framed those two Swords, which the knight enchaunted brought to thee and Manteco, that you twaine might helpe him to recover his lost Lady. And because I haue fore-seen by my magique and hidden knowledge, that by thee I shall one day attaine to high estate of honoz: I will not conceale from thee, that the destinies haue reserved onely to thee, the atchieuement of many great and braue enterprises, as also the finishing of rare aduentures and enchauntments, wherein thou shalt endure much paine and traualle.

Beside, I am to let thee vnderstand, that fortune hath sorted thee out a Lady, who at this day is esteemed peerlesse in beautie, whome to finde, thou shalt trauaile many strange regions, with labour that will be long and trouble-some: yet shalt thou still be protected by me, and comforted by the great fame thou shalt heare of her beautie, surpassing all the Princesses in the world. Begin the search of her so soone as thou canst possible, and thinke not my spee-

ches

ches friuolous, for thou shalt finde them vndoubtedly true. So banished away the wise Orbiconte, leauing the Prince in inuiculous doubts, what this Pagan woman might be, that seemed to beare him so great affection. In the end, such deliberate aduise he tooke of her words, perswading himselfe of their truth and certaintie, as he concluded to seeke the Lady, the onely Phoenix among the fairest in beautie. Of her immediately he became amorous, determining to depart from the Prince Manteco, because he would haue no competitour in his loue.

But before we passe any further, and to betwray the cause of this aduertisement by the wise Orbiconte, you must note, that she was sister to the King of Aquila, hauing been espoused to a Duke, one of the greatest Lords in that Realme, by whome she had three faire Daughters. All her life time she spent in the superstitious sciences of Magie and Geomancie, and casting the reuolution of her daughters natiuitie, she found by her arte, that if the Prince Palladine might be brought into that Countrey, each of her daughters should haue a sonne by him, that should in chualrie surpass all the knights of their time; the one of them being destined to be an Emperour, and the other two, to be Kings of wonderfull possessions.

Now to compassse the meane, whereby Palladine might be brought to this farre distant Countrey, you must likewise note, that the King of Aquila, brother to Orbiconte, had the fairest daughter that euer was seene: by which occasion, this enchauntresse appeared to the Prince, inciting him to follow the search of the fairest Lady in the world, promising him to enioy this rare virgin named Nonparelia. And when he should be thus brought into that Countrey, she deuised to exercise her arte in such sort, as he should haue the honoz of her daughters, to the ende she might expect the fortune of the children, who were appointed to so high dignities. Resolued on this intent, she betooke her selfe to dwell among the mountaints, where she

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framed.

framed the two enchanted Swords, as the first motion to draw Palladine toward *Aquila*, where at the tunc appointed he shall arrive.

But now he is with the Prince Lydisco at the Castell, where he and Manteco having their woundes healed, the enchanted Knight (with his Lady and Sister) returned to their owne home: the vision of wise Orbiconte calleth Palladine thence, and saide would Manteco returne toward *England*, because he liued by the onely remembrance of his mistresse Marcelina, so comming to Lydisco, Palladine thus began.

Alas the Prince, your care for our health hath exceeded our deserts, yet we remaine with humble dutie to make requitall: having accomplished our promise to the enchanted Knight, who with his Lady and friends are safely where they would be, we craue licence for our departure to our Countries, where our parents expect our returning continually.

Many gracious speeches were uttered by the Prince, and many liberall and bountifull promises, onely to cause them goe with him to the King his Fathers Court: but all was to no purpose, they promised to visit the King at more convenient leysure, because very urgent occasions did now hasten their departure.

When Lydisco sawe he could not perswade them, he gaue to each of them a verie sumptuous armour, and foure of the best horses in his stable, with diuers other giftes of inestimable valew: so after many courtesies and kind embracing, Palladine and Manteco set forward on their iourney, and Lydisco having seized the Castell to the King his Fathers use, on the next day following rode to the Court, where he acquainted the King with all that had happened.

The Princes having ridden most part of the day, came at length to a faire fountaine, standing in a fresh coole shadowe of trees, where they alighted, minding to dine with

with such provision as their Squires had brought with them. Afterward, they lay downe in the shade to sleepe a little, which Manteco and the Squires did very soundly: but Palladine not able to forget the words of the wise Orbiconte, arose, and being loth to trouble them that slept, took his helmet and his sword, intending to walke among the trees till they awaked. He had not gone from his companie the space of halfe a bow shoote, but he espied a goodly plaine, in the middelt whereof stode a faire pavillion, with two or thre bundles of Launces erected at the entrance. Marvailing what the meaning hereof might be, he kept himselfe still hid among the trees, to see if any one would come in or out of the Tent. At length, he beheld come riding on the plaine, two Knightes with a Damosell that bare a goodly Shield, which with the beames of the Sun, dazeled the eyes of the beholders. These two Knightes and the Damosell would have passed the Tent, but he espied one came suddenly forth, and stayd them, saying. You may not passe by (Gentlemen) so easily, you are well armed for the triall of the Lance: you must therefore make some proofe in this place of your chivalrie, else must you leave your Armour and Horses behinde you. And first of all, you Damosell must deliuer me the Shield you carry, for it liketh me well, and I shall best deserue it. I may not do so, answered the Damosell, because you are not the man it is sent vnto, and for whome it was purposely made. Whether I be he or no, quoth the Knight of the Tent, haue it I will: with which words he offered to take it violently from her, but the two Knightes stayd him with these speeches.

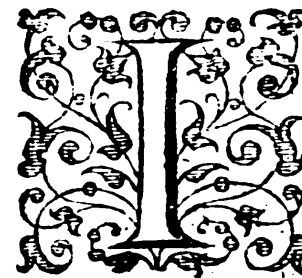
Sir Knight, we neyther refuse the Toust or Combats with thee, but in presuming to take the Shield perforce from the Damosell, we iudge it rather the behaviour of a thiefe and robber, then sitting with the credit of a Gentleman, or one that by brauerie of minde, desires to trie the courage of Knightes errant. Are you offended, quoth the

Knicht of the Tent, at any thing I haue sayd or done: be-
lieue me, I will haue the Sheld, and cause you to repent
your audacious folly. Come forth, queth he to his knightes
in the Tent, and teach these lullie companions a little bet-
ter dutie. Presently issued forth two knightes on horse-
backe, and couthing their Launces, they encountred them
that defended the Damosell, who threw them from their
Sables with such violence, as they lay not able to stirre
any limme. Two more came forth of the Tent, and fol-
lowed their companions in fortune, whereat the knight
was so angrie, as he mounted on horsebacke himselfe, cal-
ling fire more forth to take part with him. See my friends
quoth he, foure of our men are slaine, or in great dan-
ger, let vs altogether run on these villaines that so vsed
them, for man to man I see they are strongest, such there-
fore as loue me, follow me. So by their furious assault, the
two knightes were dismounted, and by the time the other
had finished their course, they drew their Swords, and
buckling on their Shelds, came with resolute courage to
morte their enemies. Right sorrowfull was the Damosell
to see the knightes that defended her cause, in such dan-
ger: but Palladine beholding the valour of the twayne,
and the cowardly villaine of the other, came forth of the
wood, and taking part with them so much wronged, in
short time layde foure of them breathlesse on the ground.
The other three would gladly haue giuen ouer sight, but
Palladine and the Damosells knightes layde on such
loades, as two more were sent to accompany they: fel-
lows, the third (to saue his life) yelded to their mer-
cie.

CHAP.

CHAP. XIII.

How Manteleo found Palladine, with the two Knightes,
and the Damosell, that brought the Sheld from the
wife Orbiconte.



At the tyme of this sharpe skirmish,
the Prince Manteleo awaked, and
missing his companion Palladine,
called the Squires, who were no
lesse amazed at the absence of their
maister, but seeing his horse and
Launce there, they imagined he
could not be strayed verie farre. As
they walked into the wood to sake
him, they heard the clanching of weapons, and entring on
the plaine, they espied Palladine with the two Knightes
and the Damosell, and a man kneeling on his knees before
him, crauing pardon for his life.

Manteleo being glad he had found his friend, came to
him with merrie and cheerefull countenance: when the
two Knightes seeing his face, immediately knew him, and
casting downe their helmets, came and embraced him,
saying: How highly are we beholding to the vertuous
Prince Palladine. without whose assistance our liues had
perished: Palladine knowing them to be Durandell of
Cleue, and Orliman of Flaunders, of whose chualrie he had
heard much commendation, embraced them with marue-
lous affection, the like did Manteleo, and no small gratu-
lations were entercoursed betwene these foure Princes.

When the Damosell heard the name of Palladine, she
alighted from her Walfray, and with humble reuerence on
her knee, thus spake to him.

Happie and successfull Knight, whose vertues are re-
nowmed through the wide world, the wife Orbiconte hath
sent

The pleasant Hiltorie

sent you this Sheld, commending her selfe dutifully to your good grace, intreating you to forsake your companie awhile, and with me to go visit her that honors you.

Palladine hearing her speake of the wise Orbiconte, who had so often appeared to him in visions, was as ioyfull, as Manteleo and the other were sorrowfull, to leaue the companie of him they loued so well: but hee hauing taken the Sheld, returned this answer to the Damofell.

Faire friend, I thanke your mistresse and you like wise, promising to goe with ye whether you please, though leth I am to forgoe the companie of these gentle Princes: but seeing it liketh the Lady Orbiconte it should be so, I obey her commaund right willingly, hoping to see my good friends againe ere it be long.

As Palladine thus spake, his countenace altered very pale and wanne, whereby the Damofell iudged that he was wounded, wherefore he said: I perceiue (my Lord) you are scant well, let us enter this Tent I pray ye, where you shall be vnarmed, and these knightes likewise, that I may see what woundes you haue receiued: for my Lady Orbiconte gaue me at my departure from her, a bore of most precious and arteficiall ointment, so that let your woundes be how dangerous soeuer, in four and twentie houres I will awarrant they shall be perfectly healed. Upon this aduise they entred the Tent, where when they were vnarmed, the Damofell verie cunningly dressed their woundes, finding those of Orliuan and Durandell to be most doubtful, yet her comfortable speeches made them expect speedie reuerie. Afterward, they satte downe to refresh themselves, with such viands as they found there readie in the Tent: and Palladine calling for the prisoner, said: knight, if thou desire the safetie of thine owne life, tell me without fabling, what the knight was that first proffered to take the Sheld from the Damofell: and vpon what occasion you kept the passage here, to forbid the course of knightes errant.

of Palladine of England. 29

errant. For will I Sir (quoth the knight) hide one iote of the truth from you.

Knowe then, that he which would haue taken the Sheld from the Damofell, was brother to a Gentleman, who not long since (by the kings commaundement) was put to a most shamefull death, for that vniustly he detayned a knightes wife: to whose Castell, came two strange knightes, and by the ayde of Lydisco, Prince of Hungaria, they took the Gentleman sore wounded, who was afterward executed, slew many of his seruants, as also his two brethren, deliuering the Lady to her husband againe, who now liue in quiet in their owne Castell.

This knight that stroue for the Sheld, was likewise brother to that Gentleman, who hearing the misfortune of his brethren, vowed to take vengeance on those two knightes, by whose meanes, he was now left friendlesse in the world. Upon this determination, heere caused he his pavillion to be erected, sending his espials abroade, to allure all knightes by this passage, hoping at length to finde those twayne, which I thinke he imagined to be they that conducted the Damofell: because he commaunded vs all to assaile them, but whether they be the same or no, he is now greatly deceiued of his hope, and thus haue you heard the verie truth of our being here. Thanks be to heauen, sayd the Prince Palladine that kept vs out of this danger, for if we had passed this way, we had either bene slaine or taken by these vile minded men. But my hazard was greatest, quoth the Damofell, had I not met with these two noble knightes, who (in my defence) thrust their owne liues into question. Damofell answered Durandell of Cleme. we haue done no more than our dutie, and what all true knightes are sworne vnto.

After they had stayed so long as them pleased, they rode to a Towne not farre distant thence, leauing the knight to prouide buriall for his companions, and help for such as yet remained aliue, swearing him, neuer after to

be scene in any such bad action. At this Towne, they abode two or thre daies, to furnish themselves of what they wanted, as also to repaire their Armour, which was much brused. At length, the Damosell tooke Palladine aside, framing her speeches to him in this manner. My Lord, seeing you finde your selfe in good estate of health, let me intreate ye to bid your friends adieu, that early in the morning we may depart to the place whether my Lady commaunded me to conduct ye, because you must be assistant to such a one, as shall hereafter doo very much for you. Damosell quoth Palladine, presently shall you see me bid them farewell, for great is my affection toward your mistresse seruice, seeing she fauours the man so much she neuer saue. Then turning to the thre Princes, he sayd. My noble companions, you knowe my promise to this Damosell, to follow her whither she shall guide me: now is she impatient for my departure, wherefore let me intreate ye not to be offended, if early in the morning I take my leave, assuring you, that neuer shall I forget your manifold courtesies. And let my solempne promise perswade you, that these earnest affaires once dispatched, to you will I presently shap my course, meane while, commaund me as your friendly seruant.

My Lord, answered Manteleo, albeit this separation is grieuous to vs, yet seeing it a cause concerning your honour, and may aduantage some distressed person, keep your promise, right patiently shall we beare your absence, hoping to see you shortly in England at the King your Fathers Court, for thither shall we presently direct our iourney. Palladine hauing intreated them, to doo his humble dutie to the King his father, to the Quene likewise, and his two Sisters, embraced them all thre right louingly, each one with teares shewing their græfe of departure. Like courteous farewell tooke they of the Damosell, who gaue them many thanks for their friendly succour, and so each one entring their chamber for that night, Lycelio the

Squire

Squire to Palladine, prepared all things readie for his maister, who determined to be on horsebacke by break of day.

CHAP. XV.

¶ How Palladine went with the Damosell that came from the wife Orbicome, and Manteleo, Durandell and Orlamund traauayled toward England, and were separated from each other by a strange aduenture.



Early in the morning, Palladine, Lycelio, and the Damosell set forward on their iourney, directing their course to the Realme of Ireland, leaving the thre Princes soundly sleeping, who the same day rode toward England, without finding any aduenture on land or Sea worth the rehearfall. After they had refreshed themselves thre or foure daies at Douer, a Towne that stands on the Sea coast of England, they concluded to ride to London, where they heard the King as then kept his Court. When they had ridden eight or ten miles, they sawe coming forth of a Forrest two poore men, all besmeared with blood, and verie sore wounded, whereupon, they imagined that some thieves had thus bled them, and therefore rode toward them to vnderstand the cause. Good Gentleman, cried one of them so wounded, for Gods sake helpe vs. Of whence are ye? sayd the Prince Manteleo. We are Sir, quoth the poore man, of Bohemia, traauailing from the King of Englands Court home againe: and to his Maiestie were we sent with thre yong Lions, which two knights (trauailing through our Countrey) gaue vs charge to carie thither. And as we came through this wood, thre thieves suddenly set upon vs, who wounded vs as you see, tooke the money from vs we receyued of the

W. y.

the

the King, and haue slaine two of our companions.

Manteleo remembering the poore men, how Palladine and he had sent them with the Lions: was meruailous sorie to see them so misused, demaunding if the thieues were on horsebacke or on foote. The poore men answered, that they were on foote, and could not (as yet) be gone verie farre. Without any further speeches, Manteleo and his Squire galloped one way, and Durandell with Orlman an other way, hoping to compass the thieues, that they should not escape. One of them Manteleo espied running, with the sword still in his hand all bloodie: Stay villaine, quoth he, for thou canst not escape so easily. The thiefe seeing he could not saue his life by flight, got him to a tree, which he could not climbe so soone, but the Prince gaue him a quittance for his life. As he fell downe to the ground, the bag of money tumbled out of his bosome, when the Squire alighting, & giuing it to his maister, returned to the place where he left the poore men, saying. Hold here my friends your money againe, and feare not him that took it from ye, for I haue made him sure for following ye any further: if the knightes that were with me finde his fellows, I doubt not but they will serue them as I haue done. Many thanks did they returne the Prince for this great gentlenesse, bringing him to their other companions. The one of them hauing some life left in him, had settled himselfe against a tree, being the man that undertooke the carriage of the Lions. By many signes he shewed that he knew the Prince, as also how graciously the King had vsed him: but no hope of life was left in him, for his inward bleeding presently strangled him. The Prince willed the poore men goe to the next towne, where their woundes might be bound up, and they might provide buriall for the other two: meane while, he with his Squire rode to seeke Durandell and Orlman, who hauing at length slaine the other two thieues, had straved so farre in such vnrequented wayes, as they knew not how to returne

turne to finde Manteleo, but took their iourney straight to London, where they were in good hope to meete with him.

The King Milanor hearing of their arrivall, entertained them very honorably, the like did the Queene and her daughters, to whom they rehearsed the knightly deedes of Palladine and Manteleo, the manner how they were separated, and how the thieues had vsed the poore men of Bohemia: yet the Prince Manteleo (as they thought) would not be long thence, because they parted so lately with him. Glad was the King of these tidings, especially Marcelina, whose life was prolonged by the onely hope of her loue.

As for Manteleo, after he had long sought for Durandell and Orlman, yet neyther could finde them, or heare any tidings of them: he returned to the towne whither he sent the poore men, and there took order for the healing of their woundes.

On the morrow as he rode toward London, he espied foure knightes Combatting against two, whereupon, he went to helpe the two knightes, and in the end, compelled the foure to yield. The two knightes were the Princes of Norgalles and Scots, to wit, Landallines and Simprinell, the quarrell growing through chollerick speeches, and by the meanes of Manteleo pacified, each shaking hands together as louers and friends. Greatly meruailed Manteleo to meete Landallines and Simprinell there, considering at his departure he left them at the Court, highly fauoured of the King and his Nobilitie: but thus it fell out.

After that Palladine and Manteleo were departed with the enchanted knight, the Prince Landallines fauoured of the King Milanor, began to affect the Princesse Florea: who seeing her Sister provided of a loue, thought she would not leade Apes in Well, and therefore entertained Landallines as her knight and seruant. He glorying in his honorable conquest, and by sollemne vowes assured her of his permanent constancie, craved licence of his faire mi-

stresse, with Simprinell he goe view the pleasures of *England*, the godly Cities and well fortified Castels, promising to returne within a moneth againe. And as they were iourning backe to the Court, Mantelco found them as you haue heard, and now they all three are gone to *London*: where, to make any ceremonious discourse of their entertainment, would hinder ye from matter of greater moment, and too long shall Palladine be left unheard of. Let it then suffice ye, the King is soze his Sonne is not returned, yet perswaded by Mantelco of his speedie presence: ioyning withall, that a King whose life was spent in affaires of highest consequence, would be desirous that his Sonne should imitate his vertues. As so; Marcelina and Florea, such as haue felt the weight of affection, and know that absent louers make a heauen of their meeting: such I thinke will here allow, that friends so intirely combined together, would hardly now fall out with one another. If then their silent passionate desires, sorted out time and place conuenient, where gracious loue might fauour their endeouours, and quench the furie of so violent impressions: leaue them contented with their fortunate successe, Mantelco with his mistresse Marcelina, and Landallines with his faire Goddesse Florea, because we must now returne to the chæfe person in our Historie, and to the Damofell of the wise Orbiconce.

CHAP.

CHAP. XVI.

¶ How the Prince *Palladine* was conducted to the Realme of *Dace*, by the Damofell of *Orbiconce* that brought him the Sheeld: and how he reskewed a Knight that was caried to prison.



Y I remember, that the Damofell sent from the wise Orbiconce, caused Palladine to leaue Mantelco, Durandell of *Cleue* and Orliman of *Flumders*, and hauing trauailed long in hir company, at length they entred the Realme of *Dace*, beguiling the time with many discourses, as concerning her mistresse, where among, he requested to know whome he should see. By Lord, quoth she, I hope this day your selfe shall see the man, a knight of high and especiall desert, who will not forget your honorable paines, in deliuering him from cruell death, or perpetual imprisonment.

As they thus deuised togeather, the Damofell alighting from her Palfrey, hearing the voyce of men and neighing of horses, she desired the Prince to shroud himselfe in secret, least he should be espied by any in the Castell. At length, they saue foure knightes and their Squires before the Castell, and in the midst of them a man, hauing his armes pinnond behind him, and his legs bound vnder his horse belly. Behold Sir, said the Damofell, this is the man, of whome I told ye, being detained prisoner by these foure knightes, now try your fortune in reskewing him: so: if they get him once within the Castell, he shall be put to a most cruell death. Palladine immediately mounted on horsebacke, and drawing his sword, without vsing any speeches to the knightes, gaue one of them such a stroke on the

the head, as he cleit his scull to the verie teeth. The other thre set on him all at once, and two of them he tumbled headlong from their horses: the third would haue fled into the Castell, but the Prince gaue him such a wound betwene the head and the shoulders, as he fell downe dead to the ground. In this while, the Damosell and Lycelio vnbound the knight, who taking a Sword and Sheld belonging to one of the slaine, came to assist Palladine, leaue any other should come forth of the Castell to resist him.

When the Porter sawe the Prince enter the Castell, and with him the knight, whome his maisters Sommes were sent to kill, or bring thither prisoner, he ranne by the staires into the Hall, crying: murder, murder, to armes Gentlemen, for we are all betrayed.

At this fearefull cry, the Lord of the Castell being an auncient man, went to the window ouer the gate, and seeing his Somme and seruants lying on the ground, eyther slaine, or in no better case: he fell in a swoone, and had not one of his Gentlemen bene by to helpe him, he neuer had recovered life againe. But being come to himselfe, he with seauen more were presently armed, and vnderstanding by the Porter, that but thre men kept the Castell gate, he with his people came downe into the Court, and like a Lion enraged, smote at Palladine, saying: Willaine, well mayst thou curse thy coming hither to murder my Sommes, both thou and the Traytor in thy company shall dierely abide it. Tery sharply did they beset the Prince, his Squire Lycelio and the knight: yet in the end, they vanquished all but two, who submitted themselves and called for merrie: for which good fortune, the knight humbly thanked Palladine. who calling the Damosell into the Castell, because feare made her tary still without, made fast the gate, and went by into a faire chamber, where they were vnarmed, and their wounds bound vp. And while prouision was making for their Supper, the Prince treated the knight to tell the occasion why he was brought

brought thither so bound and misused.

Worthie Sir, answered the knight, a true discourse shall I make of all my trouble, and thus it is.

The Lord of this place, the auncient man whome you first ouercame in the Court, had thre Sommes, one where of I found about a moneth since in a little Warren neer to my house, which is distant hence not past a mile: and thither had he allured a yong mayden, the daughter to a poore tenaunt of mine, where villainously he sought to dishonour her. My selfe (by good hap) walking that way, beheld the poore virgin before him on her knees, he hauing his Sword drawn in his hand, threatening therewith to cut her throte, if she would not accomplish his unlawfull desire.

When I sawe this vncouth spectacle, and that the poore mayden was out of breath, with strugling and strining to defend her chastitie, I came to him, and frendly intreated him to forbear that bad minde: but he immediatly, without vsing any words better or worse, left the mayden, and with his Sword began to assaile me, where doubtlesse I had bene murdered, had I not bene prouided for mine owne defence: yet did I make such good shift with him, as he was fayne to submit himselfe to my merrie, which I was contented to graunt him, vpon promise, that he would neuer offer the like vile attempt, not fitting the name of a Gentleman, who rather ought to defend the chastitie of virgins. But the forsworne wretch kept not his promise with me, for so soone as I had left him, he ran after the poore mayden againe, who thought to saue her selfe by flight to her fathers house, and in despite that he was vanquished by me, or what else I knowe not, he stabbd her to the heart with his dagger. I hearing her pitifull cry when the wound was giuen, ran after the murderer, who turned againe valiantly to resist me: but I handled him in such sort, as he accompanied the poore mayden in death. A Lackey that attended on this lubricious villayne, seeing his master had giuen his last farewell to the world, im-

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mediatly caried the newes to the Lord his father, and his other two Brethren, whom you saw without the gate. The Brethren made sollemne promise to their father, that they would take the most cruell vengeance on me as could be deuised, awaiting opportunitie to execute theyr bloodie intents; and this day as I was walking in my garden, hauing no other defence then as you see me in my doublet, they layd violent hands on me, binding me on the backe as you found me, and but for you, God knowes how they meant to haue used me.

Sir Knight, quoth Palladine, thanke God for your deliverance, and next to him the wise Lady Orbiconte, who sent this Damosell to conduct me hither for your succour.

Ah my good Lord, answered the Knight, often haue I heard of that worthy woman, who (as I vnderstand) is sister to the King of *Aquilea*, a maruailous louer of knightes vertuous and valiant: I promise ye right soone will I go giue her thanks for this exceeding fauour.

Palladine hearing him speake of *Aquilea*, remembered the letters engrauen on his sword, for which cause, he determined to trauaile thither, to finde the wise Orbiconte, that she might shew him the Lady, whereof in his sleepe she did aduertise him. Upon this resolution, they satte downe to meate, and after the Tables were withdrawn, the Damosell thus spake.

Sir Knight, you haue accomplished the promise you made me, for which I thanke ye, and will make report thereof to my Lady and mistresse, to whome I must with all diligence returne, being assured of this knightes safetie: wherefoze I humbly take my leaue, because I meane to be gone very carely in the morning. Palladine soze she would be gone so soone, sayd: If it like ye faire Damosell, I will conduct ye on your way for your Ladyes sake, who beares me such affection without any desert. My Lord, quoth she, I hartely thanke ye, but my Lady commaunded me to returne alone, assuring me to escape on the way without

without any disturbance: and albeit she had not so charged me, yet should ye not by my meanes trauaile so soone, for your wounds are yet not to dally withall; but I will leaue an vnguent with your Squire, that shall right soone recouer them from danger. Seeing then (sayd Palladine) that my companie is needlesse, let me intreate ye to commend me to your mistresse, to whome (while I liue) I shall remaine an affectionate seruant and knight. And to the end you may remember me: and in requitall of the good sheld you brought me, weare this chayne of gold for my sake, and forget not my humble dutie to the Lady Orbiconte. The Damosell receiuing the chayne, toke her leaue of him and the knight, and on the morrow rode toward *Aquilea*, leauing Palladine with the knight, who brought the Prince to his owne Castell, shewing him the place where the incontinent villaine murdered the yong virgin.

CHAP. XVII.

How the Prince Palladine trauailing toward *Aquilea*, was aduertised of the beautie of *Brisilda*, Duchesse of *Bulgaria*, for whose loue, *Dardalon* the proud mayntayned ioustes against all commers: and of the cruell Combate betweene him and *Palladine*.



Palladine remained with the knight till his wounds were healed; being entertayned mervaylous nobly, and setting on his iourney toward *Aquilea*: on the frontiers of *Dace*, he met an armed knight; with a Squire bearing his Helmet and Launce, whome after he had saluted, he requested to knowe whether he trauailed. I go Sir (answered the knight) to *Bulgaria*, to make proofe of my fortune against a strong and puissant champion.

champion, who maintaineth the Joust against all that come; for the loue of the Duchesse Brisalda, esteemed the fairest Princesse in the world, being yet scant seuentene yeeres of age. I like well his attempt, said Palladine, what soeuer he be: but knowe ye not how he is called? Dardalon the proud, men name him (quoth the knight) and fittly both that surname agree with him, for he is one of the most vaine glorious men that euer was heard of, beside, excelling in crueltie to knights that deale with him, for if he vanquish any one, he neuer pardons him, no, though he yeld himselfe to his mercie. Beloeue me, said Palladine, small commendation gets he thereby, being rather esteemed a coward, then valiant: for he bleth such crueltie, to terrify those as shall afterwarde deale with him. But the enterprises of Tournes for the loue of Ladies, should not extend to such extremitie, but rather for hono: and fame onely: yea, though to a mostall enemy, mercy should be giuen him when he yeldeth himselfe. The brute beasts shew greater humanitie, as we may reade in exampls, of Lyons, Beares, Dogs, and diuers other, who cease from rage and furie on a yelding pray. It is necessarie then, answered the knight, that such men should haue such measure serued them, and no greater mercie ought they to haue, then themselves tofore haue shewed to other: as for my selfe, if fortune fauour me against him, he shall find as little pittie as he hath giuen. By my Sword (quoth the Prince) I do desire to see that cruell knight, as I will beare ye companie, so you please to accept thereof: for perhaps the great villaine is some Deuill, and then it is necessarie he should be well coniuered. Great hono: and pleasure, quoth the knight, shall you herein doe me, for I desire nothing more then companie. So leauing the marches of Dace, they tooke Shipping on Danubium, and coasting Valachia, entred Bulgaria, landing at the Citie of Varr, where Dardalon kept his Jousts and Triumphs. But the Duchesse Brisalda tooke small pleasure in his labours, for as

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he was a man of huge and monstrous stature, so was he mishapen, and of ougly countenance, yet by his prowllesse he imagined to gaine her loue: wherein he was greatly deceived, albeit the feare of his mightie kinned, chafely of a Giant that was his Cousin, made the poore Lady giue him good looks, because by rigour he held the whole countrey in awe.

Palladine and the knight being come on shore, went presently to the place where the Joustes were kept: as they entred the throng, they sawe that Dardalon had euen then overcome a knight, who kneeling on his knees, cryed: I confesse my selfe vanquished, I yeld, I yeld. But Dardalon feigning he heard him not, nor the Princesse who called to saue his life, because the knight was nere allyed to her: smote his head from his shoulders, shewing it in great bzauerie to the Duchesse.

Palladine seeing the monstrous crueltie of this huge villaine, could stay no longer, but stepping to him, sayd. Dardalon, I neuer sawe thee before this instant, when I beheld thee to shew horrible crueltie, putting the knight to death that yelded himselfe vanquished: had it bene but for the Ladies sake, I called to thee to saue his life, me thinks of dutie thou shouldst haue spared him, and were it not I see thee wounded, thou shouldst perceiue I dare iustify my words. Dardalon beholding Palladine without his helmet, and so yong in yeeres, scoffingly thus answered. Alas good Gentleman, didst thou neuer see me before? I thinke thou wilt say thou seest me too soone: as for any wound I haue, it cannot hinder me from correcting such a sauey companion. Without any more words they mounted on horsebacke, and Dardalon taking a verie strong Launce, thought to giue the Prince an unhappie welcome: but he sawe more sure then he expected, and but that himselfe caught hold by his horse mayne, he had bene sent to fetch an errand on the ground. A long and dangerous Combate was fought betwene them, the Prince many times

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times in danger, but worthely escaping, and in the end so wearied his monstrous enemy, as he got him downe vpon his backe. Then taking off his helmet, looked to the Duchesse Brisalda, if she would haue his life preserued, but seeing that neither she or any of the Ladies made signe for it, he took off his head, to the great ioy of all the standers by: except such as were allyed to Dardalon, who presently drew their weapons to reuenge his death, but other knights stept in to assist the Prince, so that not one of them escaped aliue, yet Palladine and his company receiued no wounds of danger. The Duchesse noting the valiant prowesse of a knight so yong and louely, would faine knowe of whence he was, wherefore causing the Joustes to end for that day, she sent to intreate him come lodge in her Pallace, where her Chirurgions should haue care of his wounds. Which courteous offer the Prince accepted, not so much for the daunger of his hurts, as for his desire to be fauoured of the Duchesse, whome he imagined the fairest that euer he sawe. Then was he conducted by two Gentlemen into one of the seemeliest Chambers in the Pallace, where he was vnarmed, and his wounds visited by the Chirurgions attending on the Duchesse, who sent him a faire night mantle of blew sattin, embroidered with gold, and furred with Martins, for which most humbly he thanked her, carrying good opinion to enioy her loue, so he could compasse the meane to speake with her. For he imagined this to be the Lady, of whome the wise Oracle had foretold him, and for whose loue he should passe many dangers, as now he had done against the prowde Dardalon.

CHAP.

CHAP. XVIII.

¶ How the Duchesse Brisalda came to see Palladine, what speeches they had together: and how he slew the Giant Brandidoll, Cousin to Dardalon the prowde.



Brisalda the yong beautifull Duchesse, to whom the inueigling God had given a liuely attaint of loue to the Prince Palladine, determined to go see him in his chamber, to vnderstand of his health, and in such sort to perswade him, as he should still remaine in her Court. So clothing her selfe in most sumptuous garments, and being attended on by her waiting Ladies, she went to the Princes lodging: and after two or thre gracious courtesies passed betwene them, she said, Sir Knight, right welcome are ye to our Court, commaund me, or any thing else here to your liking: for so much doe I account my selfe indebted to you, hauing slayne the cruell and proud Dardalon, as while I liue, I shall neuer retorne sufficient recompence. The Prince falling on his knee, and kissing her faire white hand, thus answered. If I haue done any thing (Madame) that contents you, I am very glad thereof, thanking the God of heauen that fauoured me in the attempt, and if in ought else I can doe ye any seruice, till the latestt houre of death will I willingly employ my selfe. Brisalda, who was (as it were) rauished with contemplating his beautie, took him by the hand, and causing him to arise, sayd: With all my heart (gentle Sir) I thanke ye, and accept your offer so frendly made: for I greatly doubt ere long I shall neede your assistance, against the Giant Brandidoll, Cousin to him whome you haue slaine, for no sooner shall he heare of his death,

death, but hither will he come, and accuse me as author thereof, because Dardalon being enamoured of me, ordey-
ned this Tournay, thinking to espouse me either by love or force. In this did Brandidoll promise his ayd, and diuers other of their faction as bad as they, many of them being now slayne, which so contents me, as nothing can do more. And were I as well rid of cruell Brandidoll, henceforth should I liue in peace, without feare or suspicion of any one: for when the mightie enemies are quailed, the meane-
ner dare not presume to stirre.

Madame, quoth Palladine, perswade your selfe in this, that in respect of your innocencie, God will not suffer you to take any wrong, but that your enemies shall worke their owne confusion. Longer they would haue continued in talk, but that the Gentleman wth her gaue warning of dinner: wherefore the Duchesse went and sate downe at the Table, Palladine sitting iust opposite to her, who toke so great pleasure in hearing him speake, as she had no mind to eate or drinke. All which Palladine had fully noted, and God knowes how well it liked him, for if the one were passionate in loue, you may think y^e other was in the same predicament. Oftentimes would they th^owe such wounding looks on each other, as neyther had power to speake a word: but to coner this alteration, the Prince feigned to listen to the consort of musike, which plaied all dinner tyme maruellous sweetly. The Tables withdrawn, she toke him by the hand, and caused him to sit downe in a chaire by her, while many yong Lords and Ladies daunced after that Countrey manner. You may not daunce Sir, quoth she, because our Chirurgions doe thinke it hurtfull for your woundes: beside, rest is verie needfull for you, in respect of the rough combate you had with Dardalon, whome to your great hono^r you worthely conquered. For any thing I haue done, swaite Madame (quoth he) let the credit thereof remaine to your selfe: and thinke me as readie to do you seruice, as he that is most forward

forward among your seruants, of which number I desire ye to accept me as one. Unlesse were it good knight, quoth she, to account of you as my seruāt, but if you please to stay in this Cuntry, you shall perceiue by my endeoures hereafter, that I both hono^r and reuerence such men as you are. As she would haue proceeded further, her Conscience came, and said, it was time she should resort to her Chamber: whereupon they parted, not without sufficient shewes on either side, that betwene them was a sympathetic of affection. What seuerall afflictions they endured in absence, let them imagine, who haue no comfort but in the presence of their fauourite. As for the Duchesse, she on the morrow sent the Prince a rich Diamond by one of her Ladies, with this message, y^e it was her determined iell to the best combatant, and therefore his due, as hauing deserved it beyond all other. Palladine receiued it verie thankfully, returning this answer by the Lady, that in requitall of that gentle gift, he would that day enter the Lists, and against all comers maintaine the beautie of the Duchesse. As for his woundes, Lycelio had annointed them with the precious vnguent, which the Damosell brought from the wise Orbiconte, so that they were verie soundly healed. For ioy of this answer, the Duchesse caused a godly Scaffold to be erected, whereon, she and her Ladies would stand to see the Tousts: and at each end of the Lists, were sumptuous Trophies curiously placed, decked with diuers impresees and mots of loue, in artificiall Tables hanging thereon.

While Palladine and the other Lords were arming themselves, he was aduertised of an other knight new entred the field, who was the Prince Allian of *Belu*, a yong, braue and gallant knight at armes, one that was highly affected to the Duchesse Brisalda.

So soone as he was entred the Lists, he was encountered by a more knight unknowne, who was dismounted at the first course: the like success had eight or ten more,

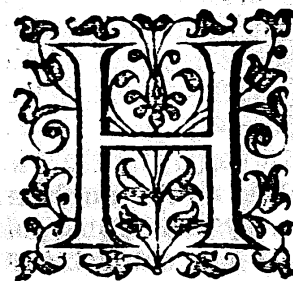
which Palladine perceiuing, he gaue his horſſe the ſpurreſ againſt this luſtie champion, liſting him halfe a ſote in height from his ſaddle. And as they were taking new Launces for the ſecond race, there entred a mightie man, armed cap a pe, who furiously ſaid, Where is the villaine that ſlew my Couſin Dardalon? by the great God, this day will I giue his ſkull to the dogs, and hers like wiſe that was the cauſe thereof, pointing to the yong Duchefſe Briſalda. And becauſe he had heard that a yong knight did his kinſeman to death, he ranne in a rage on the Prince Alſian of Ireland, giuing him ſuch a ſtroke on the head with his great Semitarie, as the gentle Alſian fell beſide his horſſe.

Palladine thinking this to be Brandidoll, and ſeing him readie to ſmite off the Princes head, ranne to him, ſaying: It is with me that thou muſt deale, I ſlew thy Couſin Dardalon, as his villainie and crueltie well deſerued. Brandidoll without making any aunſwere, left the Prince of Ireland, and ioyned with Palladine, when continued betwene them a long and terrible combat. Each one verily expected Palladines death, ſuch was the great oddes betwene him and his enemy: but ſo happily it fell out in the ende, that Brandidoll by treading on the truncheon of a Launce, fell downe backward, when the Prince taking his aduantage, got ſure hold of him, and ſmote off his head. For ioy of this victorie, the Trompets cheerefully ſounded, and the Duchefſe diſcending from the Scaffold, commaunded the Houſſes to ceaſe for that day, and coming to the Prince, gaue him many thanks, in that he had deliuered her from two ſuch cruell enemies, who ſought the ſubuerſion and ſpoile of her honoꝝ. With meruailous ſignes of ioy they returned to the Pallace, where Palladine was immediatly brought to his chamber. And ſuch wounds as he had receiued in fight, were diligently regarded by the Duchefſe Chirurgions. Each day would ſhe duly come to ſee him, and vnderſtanding that he was ſonne to the

King of England, practiſed how to vniue her ſelfe with him in marriage. And as an earnest of her perfect loue, ſhe permitted him to gather that daintie flower, which many had with long purſuite laboured for: he not reſuſing ſo braue a conqueſt, becauſe he verily perſwaded himſelfe, that Briſalda was the Lady, of whome the wiſe Orbiconte had told him: wherefore during the ſpace of ſixe weekes, he continued there in this heauy of delight, till fortune, tealons of ſo mutuall agreement, ſeparated them, as you ſhall preſently heare.

CHAP. XIX.

¶ How a ſtrange aduenture happened in the Citie of Varne, by the ending whereof, the Prince Palladine determined to depart from the Duchefſe Briſalda.



Here muſt I intreate ye to remember the Princes of Norgalles and Scots, Landastines and Simprinell, whome we left in the King of Englands Court, Landastines being enamoured on the Princesſe Florea, Diſſer to Palladine, as Mantelco was of his faire Marcelina. Simprinell loſt to part then that agreed ſo well, left his companion in England, trauielling to the King of Norgalles Court, where he certiſied his Maieſtie of the good eſtate of his Sonne Landastines. Which newes were ſo welcome to the King, as he intreated Simprinell to abide in his Court, that he might ſhew him the pleaſures of his Realme: whereto the yong Prince right willingly conſcended, as one deſirous to behold nouelties. But rather the cheefeſt cauſe was, his affection to the faire Princesſe Belanicia, daughter to the King of Norgalles, with whoſe beautie he was meruailouſly enthralled,

led, and not daring to acquaint her with his loue, he fell in-
to a dangerous sickness, to the great grief of the King, who
loued him as he had bene his owne Sonne. In the end,
the Physicians hauing declared to Simprinell, how peril-
ous his case stood by concealing his griefe, made him thus
resolued, that befoze he died, he would make knowne to
the Princesse Belanicia (who oftentimes came her selfe to
visite him, and sent him many comfortable meates in his
sickness) the originall cause of his extremitie. And one
time among other, the Lady that was most vsually sent
by the Princesse, and in whome she reposed greatest confi-
dence, desired him to betwray from whence his sickness
grew, promising withall, that she would labour to her ut-
termost, to procure his health. The yong Prince very
modest and bashfull, taking the Lady by the hand, thus
answered.

Faire friend, I thanke ye for your readie good will in
seeking my helpe, which is a matter not impossible to bee
done: but as for the cause of my languishing disease, I will
not acquaint ye therewith, vnlesse ye sweare to keepe the
same secret, not reuealing it to any one but such as I shall
name. Assure your selfe thereof, said the Lady, by the faith
of a virgin. Know then sweete Lady, quoth Simprinell,
that my extreame sickness happened by no other cause,
then the loue and affection I beare to your mistresse: and
feare to offend her or the King, hath by silence of my loue
brought me to this daunger. Why my Lord? quoth she,
you that are of so high and honorable descent, can ye offend
any Lady by louing her? or you that are as good as she, doe
not deserue loue for loue? she is the child of a King, and so
are you, beside, she is humble and gracious as any Prin-
cesse lining, then feare not to let her knowe your daunger.
Alas Madame, quoth he, neuer shall I dare to speake to
her: but may it please you to sollicite my cause, yet with
carefull heed of her dislike, I shall confesse my life preser-
ued by you. And so much will I doe for ye my Lord, quoth
she,

she, without giuing her any occasion of offence: but rather
shall I doe it in such sort, as by a speedie answer you shall
perceiue her mind. So then good madame, said the Prince,
and boldly may ye assure her, that my life or death is in
her hand. So went the Lady to her mistresse, to whome
she imparted what you haue heard, wherewith she was so
well pleased, as she presently sent to him againe this an-
swere, that she entertained his loue with the like, and that
as he would witness his affection towards her, he should
practise what speed he could deuise for his health.

These words breathed such life into the Prince, as
within few dayes he was perfectly recovered, when after
many amorous parles with Belanicia, she to make a triall
how his loue was grounded, hauing heard report of the
faire Duchesse Brisalda: desired him to trauell to *Varne* in
Bulgaria, carrying with him her liuely counterfeit, and there
to maintaine against all knightes whatsoeuer, that she
was fairer then the Duchesse Brisalda, on which condition,
she would accept him as her knight and loyall seruant.

Simprinell glad to be so commaunded, the next day he
departed with his foure Squires, and coming to *Varne*,
where the Duchesse remained, heard what braue employ-
ment was there in Chiuallrie: wherefore coming to the
accustomed place of the Tourney, on a faire Waller he plac-
ed his Ladies picture, saying, he would maintaine a-
gainst all conuers, that his mistresse excelled the Du-
chesse Brisalda in beautie. The knightes attendant on the
Duchesse, were amazed hereat, preparing themselves to
defend her cause: but Simprinell willed them first to bring
the Duchesse counterfeit, and it to be placed by his Ladies,
and the conquerour should carie them both with him.
Right soone was the Duchesse figure set on the Waller, and
Simprinell this first day dismounted twelue knightes:
Palladine being ridden abroade on hunting, which made
Brisalda despaire of her fortune, fearing the strange cham-
pion would depart unconquered.

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This dayes good successe, emboldened Simprinell to try the second, when Palladine entring the Lisses among the other Knightes, whome one by one he saw bravelly unho: sed, he came to Simprinell with these speches.

In soth (Sir Knight) I commend your enterprise, being a cause that maketh many forward in Armes: but as for the Lady, whome you extoll beyond my Lady the Duchesse heer present, I say and will averse the contrary, against you and all other till the houre of death. If affecti- on hath blinded your eyes, I some shall alter that opinion, when your owne selfe shall confesse, that your Lady is no way to be compared with mine.

I imagine by your words Sir, answered Simprinell, that you will defend your mistresse by the tongue onely: but let us goe to the matter roundly, for you are not yet so good an Oratour, as to perswade me from a resolved assu- rance.

You thinke then, quoth Palladine, that I thinke to escape the Combate by my words. Not so, for you shall see me effectually defend the hono: of her beaustie who is my mistresse. So giving the spurs to their horses, they en- countred with such violence, as Palladine lost his stirrops, but Simprinell was cast forth of his saddle to the great ioy of the Duchesse and her friends, that his presumptuous ar- rogancie was so worthely checked.

Afterward they fell to the Combate with the sword, and long they fought without any aduantage, till Palladine by tripping his enemy, got him downe, and himselfe upon him, when holding his sword over him, he sayd: Now must thou confesse the Duchesse Brisalda, to be a Lady farre exceeding thine in beaustie, else art thou not like to see her againe. Seeing fortune hath throwne me into this extremitie, said Simprinell, I confesse my selfe van- quished: but to say that my mistresse is inferiour to thine, I will not though I die therefore, nor am I otherwise bound by my owne conditions, then to leaue her portrait to

of Palladine of England. 40

to the will of the conquerour. The Judges of the feild gaue sentence accordingly, whereupon Palladine left Simprinell, and went to place the Duchesse counterfeite aboute Belanicia, albeit he perceiued her figure much more beautifull: by which conceit he gathered, that this was she of whome the wise Orbiconte told him, wherefore he onely minded Belanicia, purposing right soon to forsake the Duchesse.

As he was vnaruing in his chamber, he began to thinke how he might leaue Brisalda, and what excuse would serue for his departure: yet when he considered his good enter- tainment, and what especiall fauour he had receiued at her hands, he altered his mind, reputing the words of Or- biconte for more illusions.

And as he continued in this deepe musing, he thought he heard one whisper in his eare, saying: It is not heere Palladine that thou must abide, wherefore follow the good fortune that is promised thee. Whereupon he concluded, what euer happened, he would depart on the morrow, and thereof that night he meant to aduertise the Duchesse, to whome he went right soon afterward.

CHAP. XX.

¶ How Palladine aduertised the Duchesse of his departure, and how traouailing to the Realme of Norgalles, he had a dangerous Combate with Simprinell, whome he knew afterward.



With were y troublesome thoughts of Palladine, in hastening his departure toward Belanicia, as without any longer stay he came to the Duchesse, who seeing him looke so sad, desired to knowe the cause thereof. In soth Madame, quoth he, I can not forget the strange knight that I fought withall this day: right soie

forie I am that I demanded not his name: for I imagin I haue sometime seene him in *England*. If that be all, sayd the Duchesse, we will send for the Knight hither: but her sending was in vaine, for he departed immediatly after the Combate. When Palladine saue no excuses would serue, but she would needes presse him with earnest request of his penitence, he said.

Let it not dislike ye good Madame, if I haue intended any thing for your honor and mine owne, but rather conceiue thereof as it deserueth. Full well you knowe faire mistress, that hardly can we continue our loue together, enioying the benefite of good hap affords vs, without jealous suspicion of your Lords and Ladies: and affection maketh amorous friends oftentimes forgetfull of themselves, so that being subiect to the iudgement of many, they shall hardly escape without scandalous and peremptorie speeches. And nothing (sweet Madame) is more hurtfull to our honors, especially yours, in respect of your greatness and authoritie: to prevent which danger, and that hereafter we may stand out of the reach of wounding tongues, I meane to trauaile to *England* to the King my father, whome I wil acquaint with the intended marriage betwene vs, and his good will obtained, right soone shall I returne to haue it accomplished. In the meane while, you may conferre thereon with the Lords of your Councell, who (I thinke) will not dislike thereof, when they vnderstand my birth and parentage, so shall our credits be safely defended, and what hath past alreadie, be sufficiently recompenced.

When Brisalda heard these speeches, her heart was so swollen with græfe, as she was not able to make any answer: whereat he could not but mernaile, considering his words tended to great reason: yet with such zealous perswasions he still laboured her, making faithfull promise of his speedie returne, as in the end he obtained her consent, albeit God knowes verie unwilling. Giving her then an

amorous

amorous conge, he tooke two bracelets from his armes, verie richly embelished with pearle and stone, and presented them to the Duchesse, saying. On the same day I came to your Court, sweete Madame, you gaue me a iewel, which I will keepe for your sake while I liue: that you may likewise remember me, I beseech ye to weare these bracelets, which were giuen me by my mother on the day I was Knighted. Alas my Lord, quoth she, I doubt you haue left me such a remembrance, as except you speedily returne againe, will beare me company to my latestt home. Yet will I keepe one of the bracelets for your sake, and when you come againe, I will haue the other. So putting the bracelet on her arme, she vowed neuer to take it off, vntill she saue her Knight returned. With many kind embracings, and deuoute kisses, he returned to his lodging, and the Duchesse to her chamber, where calling her trustie maiden to her, who was a captiue Moore, and one not alittle in her fauour, being acquainted with all that had passed betwene the Prince and her, with many bitter sighes and teares, she telles the Moore the summe of her græfe. The Moore perswaded her, that the Prince herein had done aduisedly, for safetie of both their honors, if their loue (as greatly she doubted) had sorted to effect: for secrecie must be the meane to couer such matters, which she would so substantially bring to passe, as none but themselves should be acquainted therewith. With much adoe the Duchesse was pacified, and on the morrow when Palladine departed, she sent him a purse of gold to spend in his trauaile, causing her Lords to accompanie him two or thre miles on his way: and so (though loth) these louers are seperated, the Duchesse abiding solitarie in her Palace, and Palladine (hauing bidden the Lords adieu) is journeying in haste toward *Norgalles*.

He had not ridden halfe part of the day, but a Knight with thre Squires gallopped after him, crying: Stay Sir Knight, for here commes one that must speake with thee.

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Palladine

Palladine presently turning his horse, took his Launce from his Squire, thus answering.

What is he that would speake with me? let him keepe out at the length of my Launce, till I haue better knowledge of him, why he should come to seeke me in such haste. Because thou wouldest so faine knowe me, answered the knight, thou shalt vnderstand, that I am the man thou didst vanquish yester day, more by fortune then prowess: therefore I would now trie againe, how well I can reuenge my former foyle. So fetching their carrie, they encountred together so brauely, as they were both dismounted, and while their Squires laboured to catch their horses that ran about the field, they fell to the combat with the sword, and wounded each other very dangerously, till in the end Palladine got the aduantage: and as he made proffer to smite off his enemies head, he knew him to be Simprinell, ~~Some to the King of Scots.~~ Some was all the former unkindnesse pacified, and each embraced other verie louingly, repprouing themselves of great wrong to friendship, yet excusing the same by ignorance. When their Squires sawe how they were wounded, one of them thus spake. In this wood (my Lords) is a faire Abbey, and there remaineth one verie skilfull in Chirurgie: so please ye to goe thither, the Abbot will entertaine ye gently, because he is brother to a worthy Gentleman, who spent his time as a knight errant, and for his sake he loueth all strange knightes whatsoever.

They not misliking this counsell, went presently to the Abbey, where the Abbot welcommed them as becommed their estates: and while their Supper was prouiding, the skilfull man hauing visited their woundes, they walked into the faire Orchards and Gardens, recounting to each other their severall fortunes, since they were together in the Court of *England*. Simprinell discoursed his loue to Belanicia of *Norgalles*, and the cause of his comming to the Citie of *Parue*: which when Palladine heard, he determined

ned not only to forget his affection to Belanicia, but also to assist his friend to his uttermost in obtaining her loue, saying.

O my noble friend, I knowe what manner of disease loue is, if one haue not receiued the swetes thereof, albeit, when I sawe you in *England*, I had no knowledge at all therein: wherefore, if I shall accompanie you to *Norgalles*, such good speeches will I vse of you to your Lady, as she shall not be offended for not bringing her portrait againe, or that of the Duchesse which she sent ye for.

Simprinell thanked the Prince for his offer, but he was farre otherwise addicted, saying: he had promised his Lady a further iourney for her loue, wherein he would not haue any companie.

With this answer was Palladine well contented, directing his course another way: so hauing stayed two daies at the Abbey, and either of them being able to beare Armour, he left Simprinell there, and courtcously taking his leaue of the Abbot, set on whither fate and fortune would guide him.

And after he had ridden fve or sixe dayes, he met a horseman, with whome, falling in talke, he vnderstood, that the great Prince Cæsar of *Rome*, had at *Paris* entered a noble Tournament, for the loue of the faire Rosamonde of *Fraunce*, a Princesse esteemed incomparable in beautie. And I (quoth the Courrier) am sent to the King of *Norgalles* Court, who hath a faire Daughter named Belanicia, befoze whome, I must reueale my message, and declare the Prince Cæsars challenge, in presence of all the Kings knightes. Afterward, I must trauaile to *Bulgaria*, and in the Court of the Duchesse Brisalda, a Lady likewise renowned for her beautie, I must make knowne of this famous Tournament.

Palladine glad to heare the Duchesse so commended, and that now he had the meanes to see the Princesse Belanicia, accompanied the messenger to *Norgalles*, and by the

way, meeting Belanicia riding in her Litter abroad for her recreation, with diuers knightes that attended on her, Palladine was prouoked to Ioust with them, by a contemptuous challenge of one of her knightes. But such was their ill lucke, as all her champions were dismounted, till her brother Landastines took the cause in hand, hauing left the *English* Court to come see the King his father: and after they had broken many Launces, not being able to preuaile against each other, they ended the sport, and Landastines knowing Palladine, took him with him to the Court, where he was welcommed honozably by the King, as also the faire Belanicia his daughter.

CHAP. XXI.

¶ How Simprinell being healed of his wounds, returned to *France*, where he vanquished the Prince *Altian* of *Ireland*, and brought away the portrait of *Brisilda*.



When Simprinell felt himselfe well recovered, and remembred, how he had not onely failed in winning the portrait of the Duchesse, but in the attempt had lost y^e figure of his mistress Belanicia: he determined not to goe to *Norgalles*, vnlesse he could accomplish his Ladyes commaundement. Wherefore taking his leaue of the Abbot, he rode backe againe to *France*, and comming to the place of triumphes, found the Duchesse with her Ladyes placed on the Scaffold, and the Prince *Altian* of *Ireland* the Champion for *Brisilda*, who preuailed wth they against all that encountred with him. Simprinell looking on his Ladyes picture, and seeing it embased vnder the Duchesse, had such a violent impression stroke him to the harte; as he intended to recover her honoz againe, or

else

else to leaue his life in the field. And in this resolution he encountred the *Irish* Prince, passing two or thre courtes brauely, the shiuers of their Launces flying vp into the aire: but at the third attaint, he met *Altian* so roughly, as both horse and man were sent to the ground.

When *Altian* had recovered his forte, he drew his Sword, and comming to Simprinell, who by this time was alighted, and prepared for him: when they began a fierce and cruell combate, whereof Simprinell in the end had the honoz. Then comming to the Duchesse, with courteous reuerence he demaunded of her, if she would permit him to carie thence the portraites: whereto she made no answer, but in a great anger shing from the Scaffold, because her champion had defended her cause no better. Whereupon, the Judges as the equitie of the case required, deliuered the portraites to Simprinell, which he giuing to his Squires, mounted on horsebacke, returning presently backe to the Abbey, not a little glad of his high good fortune. At the Abbey he stayed thre or foure dayes, to heale such woundes as he toke in the last combate, and afterward departed toward *Norgalles*, where he arrived without any aduerture by the way to hinder him. If he were welcome to the Lords and Ladies, I referre to your opinions, and how the Princeesse Belanicia liked thereof, when she sawe her Knight returned with the Duchesse counterfeit, let Ladyes desirous of especiall account, imagine her content: but in requitall of his great paines, so confidently did she loue him afterward, as by imparting the same to her brother Landastines, who highly fauoured his friend Simprinell: the King was made acquainted therewith, and Ambassadors sent to the King of *Scots*, such good liking thereof being found betwene them both, as the mariage was consumated, and long loue requited with desired recompence.

Afterward, Simprinell imparted to Landastines, how at first he was fogled by the Prince *Palladine*, and in his

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absence

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absence had won his Ladyes credit againe: which Landastines tooke so unkindly, as they concluded to trauaile to *Paris*. Whither the *English* Prince was gone before, to reconcile this wrong to former amitie. And thither are ridden Landastines and Simpinell, to the great græfe of the King and Quene, but chæfely of Belanicia. so sone to forgoe her Lord and husband.

Palladine entised with the report of this braue Tournament, held at *Paris* by the Prince Caesar for faire Rosamonde of *France*, would needs be sene in those worthe exploits: and landing at *Calis* (loth to be knowne in *England*, least the King his father should hinder his intended iourney,) he met with the Duke of *Gaule*, accompanied with twentie knightes brauely mounted, he likewise riding to the Prince Caesars Tourney, by the commaundement of the faire Agricia of *Naples*, whome he honozed as his Lady and mistresse.

After they had saluted each other, Palladine presently knew the Duke, remembryng he had sene him in his fathers Court: yet would not he make any shew thereof, because he was so slenderly accompanied, hauing no one with him but his Squire Lycelio, and therefore was content to be esteemed but as a poore knight errant.

The Duke merily demaunded of Palladine, whether he trauailed, and about what affaires.

O my Lord, quoth the Prince, my iourney is to *Paris*, and no other busines haue I there, then to make one in the famous Tournament, ordained by the Prince Caesar of *Rome*: for loue of the faire Rosamonde of *France*.

But will you, quoth the Duke, aduenture your selfe against a Prince so magnanimous: In soth (answered Palladine) I will try my fortune both against him and other, if I may.

Alas, said the Duke scoffingly, your courage exceeds your abilitie, if you desire the combat, as you professe: I would aduise ye not to meddle with Caesar, for if ye do, you

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you will hardly deale with any other afterward. Let that fall out, quoth Palladine, as my fatall Starres haue appointed: if I be vanquished, I must put it vp with patience: for I am as all men are, subiect to fortune.

You are then, said the Duke, the Knight of fortune, and she your mistresse: yet can I scant thinke it, vlesse that is she which is painted in your Shield.

Palladine seeing the Duke so scorne him, angerly answered.

In truth my Lord, your lips hang in your light, in taking the God of loue to be fortune.

I see I am deceiued, quoth the Duke, for Cupid hath made you a louing Knight: by the faith I beare to Chastitie, me thinks amorous conceits do ill agree with so yong a countenance. I scant thinke, said Palladine, that your elder countenance can disgrace mine so yong. Be not angrie Gentleman, quoth the Duke, the tyme is dangerous for diseases: and if you chase your selfe too much, you may chance to be beguiled of all your wit. If I happen hereafter, said Palladine, either to borrow some wit of you, or to lend you more then you seeme to haue, thinke a yong man as able as he that lookes more auncient: and for your scoffing floutes, the next tyme I meete with you, you and I will try who is the better man. So taking a Scarffe from about his arme, he threw it to the Duke, saying: In witnesse of my words, there is my gadge, which I will fetch againe before I will forfeit it, and pay you vsurie enough for your taunting speeches. With which words he galloped an other way, the Duke in great laughter bidding him adieu: but Palladine rode on verie patiently, minding to be reuenged on the Duke when he came to *Paris*. But it fell out contrarie to his expectation, for the Duke, and all his knightes riding toward *Paris*, were taken by two cruell Outlawes, that kept a strong Castell, they being named Brulanfuor, and Fruciant, who likewise kept the Prince Lewes of *France* prisoner, because

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because Brulanfurior sought to marie with his Sister Rosamonde: and being denyed, as unworthie so faire a Princeesse, hee and his Brother left the Court, alluring with them the yong Prince Lewes. and there led a most hatefull and despised life, imprisoning all the knightes they could get, and stealing all necessities from the poore countreyemen.

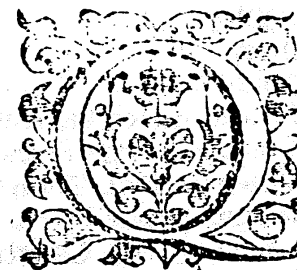
By this Castell Palladine chaunced to ride, when he saw the servants to these cruel men, take violently a great heerd of Sheepe from two poore Shepheards, which he got them againe by killing the thæues: and afterward vnderstanding the thraldome of Prince Lewes, disguised in Shepheards habits, he and Lycelio entred the Castell, where by policie they slew Brulanfurior and Frucidant, with all the villaines that attended on them. Then searching the Prisons, they found the Prince Lewes, the Dukes of Sauoy, Gaule, and Guizme, the Countie of Champagne, and many other great Lords prisoners there: to whome he gaue libertie, and so the Duke of Gaule confessing his former folly, was frendly pardoned by the Prince Palladine, and there stayed thre or foure dayes in companie with the Princes, while Lycelio annointed his woundes with the precious vnguent, so that they were sound and perfectly healed.

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CHAP. XXII.

¶ How the Princes Palladine, and Lewes of France, arriued at Paris, and of the noble deedes of armes, accomplished by the Prince Cesar in the Ioustes, which he maintained for the loue of faire Rosamonde of France.



Thetly remained the Princes in the Castell of Brulanfurior, and beguiling the time with repetition of many knightly aduentures, till feeling themselves in good plight to trauaile, and knowing the day was now at hand, when y Prince Cesar would begin his enterpryse for faire Rosamonde: when Lewes committing the Castell to the custodie of a trustie Gentleman, and what prisoners remained, to stay the censure of the King his father, with Palladine he set forward to Paris.

Loth was the English Prince to be knowne (as yet) to the King of France: untill he had tried his fortune against Cesar of Rome: wherefore he intreated Prince Lewes and the rest to conceale his name: and so I would not be knowne (quoth Palladine) by my Shield, I beseech ye good friend Lewes to lend me yours, which I will employ with such chualrie, as you shal not be dishonored thereby. Prince Lewes granted Palladines request, and coming to Louure where the King then lay, no little ioy was made for the returne of the yong Prince. And when the King demanded for the knight that slew Brulanfurior and Frucidant, the Prince answered, that he was gone to Paris, but would not be knowne till he had Iousted with the Prince Cesar. On the morrow the Tournaient began, and the knightes entering the Lyfles, the King and all the estates placed

placed to regard the sports: Prince Caesar verie brauely came forth of his Tent, and the first that made offer to runne with him, was the Duke of *Gaule*, who bare in his Sheld for his deuise, a Knight fighting with a Lion. Whereby was figured, the noble assistance he gaue to his Lady Agricia, who had bene deuoured by a Lien had not he defended her: whereupon, he entertained him as her Knightly seruant, commanding him to trauaile to *Paris*, and to maintaine her beautie against Prince Caesar of *Roome*, as farre excelling faire Rosamonde of *France*. For this cause he entred the Listes, and comming to Caesar, thus spake. Wither am I come Sir Knight, to iustifie that my mistresse faire Agricia of *Naples*, excēdeth Rosamonde in all perfections of beautie. And I, quoth Caesar will maintaine the contrarie, that the Lady thou hast named, deserues not to be equalled with my diuine Goddess. So couthing their Launces, they met together with exquisite chiuallrie, and at the second encounter, the Duke of *Gaule* was unhorsed: when being caried into his Tent by his Squires, verie sore hurt and brused with his fall, he entred into many dolorous complaints, because he had so lost the honor of his mistresse.

Landastines of *Norgalles*, and Simprinell of *Scotland*, being come thither to finde the Prince Palladine, determined to make proue of their valour against Caesar, but they accompanied the Duke of *Gaule* in misfortune, and so did diuers other Knightes after them.

Then entred the Listes two braue gallants, the one in azure Armour thick set with Starres of gold, and in his Sheld, a Lady reshelved from a Giant: the other bare for his deuise, Fame triumphant in a silver field.

The Knight in azure Armour, made signe to Caesar, that he would first aduenture for his Lady: yet such was his ill hap in the end, as both horse & man were throwne to the ground. When the Knight of Fame saue his friend dismounted, he came to Caesar with these speeches.

Sir

Sir Knight, I confesse as well as thou dost, that my Lady Rosamonde excelleth all other in beautie: but this will I make good on thy body, that I am more worthy to be her seruant then thou art. It should seme then, answered Caesar, that I deserue not to be so accounted: this controuersie shall the strength of my Launce presently discide, and thou or I will be her onely seruant. Whereupon, they encountered verie valiantly, breaking many Launces, yet neither able to moue the other, whereat, they both grew angrie, desiring the King to let them haue stronger Launces, or else to permit them the Combate with the Sword: but the King would not suffer them to meddle with Swords, commanding each of them a very strong Launce, at which charge, the Prince Caesar was brauely dismounted, and the Knight of Fame had almost bozne him companie. A great murmuring presently grew among the people, some auouching, that because the strange Knight so hardly recovered himselfe, therefore Prince Caesar should not be held as vanquished, but that they should proue their fortune once more. But the Judges gaue verdict to the contrarie, attributing the conquest to the Knight of Fame: which when Caesar heard, he went to the King, to intreate his Maiestie for the Combate with the Sword: but he denyed it him, saying, that the Joules being enterprised for loue, ought not to be ended in hatred.

At these wordes, Prince Caesar went to his Lady Rosamonde, who gaue him many thanks for his honorable paines: and though his successe happened so ill in the end, yet would not she withdraw her loue.

But now commes Palladine into the field, being sorie he had not the conquest of Caesar, yet determining to end his choller on the Knight of Fame, to whom he approached, saying: It grieues me Sir Knight that I confest not with noble Caesar, for if I had, little praise couldest thou haue gotten to day. Your reason: answered the Knight of Fame. Because I had won y^e honor (of Palladine) which

W. y.

thou

thou sharpest, and yet remains in doubt among a number, which if thou darrest say thou hast deserved, I will avouch the contrary: beside, if it appertaines not to thee, to be servant to the faire Lady Rosamonde nor to the very meanest among her Ladies: so (as I understand) she is provided of one beyond thee many degrees. Good Sir, answered the knight of fame, you are very bold and brave in speeches: what moveth ye so much to abase me, seeing you knowe not of whence or what I am: nor hast thou seen any matter in me deserving these words. But I perceive the cause hereof groweth, by the desire thou hast to deale with me, wherein thou shalt have thy desire, either at the Launce or Sword, so please the King to graunt vs that libertie. Then turning to his Maestie, the knight of fame intreated the combat, with the Sword, if they could not finish their quarrell at the Launce. Loth was the King to suffer such danger, but the Judges, with many Lords and Barons there present, noting the earnest desire of the knight, and that they were both strangers, perswaded his highnesse, intending to cause them give over, if in sight either of them should be in perill of life.

When they had thus obtained what they would, they gave their horses the spurs, and with a verie rough encounter, they were both dismounted, wherewith Palladine verie angrie, drew his Sword, and marching against the knight of fame, such a cruell combat continued betwene them, as never had the like bene seen in France. The King beholding their Armour broken, and the ground coulored with their scarlet blood, sent his Sonne the Prince Lewes to intreate them give over: which they immediatly did, the knight of fame being not a little glad thereof, because he was brought into verie great debilitie, onely by the exceeding abundant losse of his blood. Lewes bringing them before the King his father, caused them both to be graciously entertained, and taking Palladine by the hand, sayd. See here my Lord the man that slew Brulanfurior and

and his brother, who delivered me from imprisonment, and many knightes that were held captive in the Castell.

The King not a little ioyfull of these newes, arose and embraced Palladine, saying.

Worthy knight, I am more indebted to you then any man else in the world, for you alone have done that to me, which neither with strength or pollicie I was able to compass. I enjoy my Sonne againe by your meanes, and my people are delivered from those mercuriall villaines, whome neyther law nor love could bridle: let me understand of whence you are, that I may knowe the man to whome I am so highly beholding.

O my Lord, answered the Prince, my name is Palladine, Sonne to the King Milanor of England, your loving brother and beloved friend.

At these words, the King was much more glad then before, and casting his armes about his necke, with inward conceite of ioy, the teares trickled downe his face: then came the Quene and faire Rosamonde her daughter, who welcommed the Prince with marvailous courtesie, the like did Landastines, Simprinell and Lydisco of Hungaria, who was the man that came with the knight of fame, and at report of these Triumphes travailed into France.

As for the knight of fame himselfe, he was called Don Robert, the Prince of Freze, a stout, couragious and hardie champion, greatly devoted to the love of faire Rosamonde. The King presently departed to his Pallace, there to honor these brave knightes as they worthily deserved: but Caesar of Rome highly thanked Palladine, for revenging his foyle on the knight of fame, swearing to him an inviolable league of amitie, which grew to such effect, as you shall hereafter behold.

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CHAP.

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CHAP. XXIII.

¶ How the Princes *Don Robert of Freeze*, and *Lydisco of Hungaria*, being healed of their woundes, departed from *Paris*: and of a letter which the wise *Orbicone* sent to *Palladine*, who was passionate for the loue of faire *Rosamonde of Fraunce*.

DOn Robert of Freeze, hauing kept his chamber certaine dayes, by reason of the dangerous woundes he had receiued, and *Palladine* likewise in the selfesame estate, yet carefully attended on by the Kings Chirurgeons, a greater cossey happened to them both, then either their woundes or doubt of health. For Don Robert

seeing he was not regarded of the faire Princeesse *Rosamonde*, whome he loued as dærely as his owne life, thought to haue committed violence on himselfe, but that by gods aduise he was better perswaded, and being out of hope to compasse his desire, when he was somewhat recovered, he and *Lydisco of Hungaria* took their leaue of the King, shaping their course through *Piccardie* toward *Bullin*, where they imbarqued themselves, and sailed into *England*, for that they were desirous to see the good King *Milnor*, to whome they brought letters from his Sonne *Palladine*. *Landastines* likewise as not vnmindfull of his Florea, sent the message of his heart vnder seale by *Lydisco*, excusing his absence which should not be long, and hoping to bring her brother home with him. As for *Palladine*, he became so affected to the Princeesse *Rosamonde*, whome he imagined to be the Lady foretold by the wise *Orbicone*: as he wasted and consumed in pensue thoughts, practising how to obtaine her loue, albeit he aduentured the hard stratagemes

of Palladine of England. 48

of death. Oftentimes would he priuately conferre with her, and she would aunswere him with such rare modestie, as increased his torments about the compasse of reason. For was she forgetfull of his dangerous paines, in deliuerance of her brother *Lewes* from imprisonment, ioyning therewithall the common benefit, by the death of *Brulanturior* and his brother *Frucidan*: but as for the priuledge of her loue, the Prince *Cæsar of Rome* was Lord thereof, and her settled affection impossible to be remoued. All which he perceiued by such manifest signes, as made him were frantike in silent cogitations: sometime thinking to forestall his friend, by making the first request of her in marriage: then againe intending the death of *Cæsar*, rather then to misse of the faire *Rosamonde*. And though the Romaine Prince loued him dærely, yet the surie of blinde loue made *Palladine* so impatient, as he minded nothing but *Cæsars* death, which with a sharpe Launce in the Throat he imagined might easily be done, or with an infected cup of popson giuen him in his chamber.

But the wise *Orbicone* still directing *Palladines* course, and knowing by her arte his secret intent, onely by being deceiued in his owne opinion: would separate *Palladine* from *Cæsar*, by calling him to his destenped Countrey, whereof we spake in the beginning of our Historie, and thus it happened.

The Prince being in his Chamber with *Landastines*, *Simprinell*, and his Squire *Lycelio*, imagining how to finish his determination: on a sudden there entred a little deformed Dwarfie, who saluting *Palladine*, gaue him a Letter, saying.

My Lord, the wise *Orbicone* hath sent ye this Letter, the contents whereof, he commaunds you to fulfill, otherwise, great harme will happen to you. He had no soner spoken these words, but immediatly he vanished away. How now? quoth *Landastines*, whether is the little Jack an Ape gone: oftentimes haue I seene the craftie deccits

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benefits of Jugglers, but neuer sawe I such a trick before: I hold my life the Deuill fetched him away. This strange accident made Palladine remember the voyce that whispered in his eare at *Vern*, when he determined to depart from the Duchesse Brisolda: and desirous to knowe the newes from Orbiconte, he feigned that he would lie downe vpon his bed, wherefore Landastines and Simprinell withdrew themselves, when he opening the Letter, read as followeth.

The Letter from Orbiconte the wife, to Palladine the Prince of England.

HAving certaine knowledg (vertuous Prince) of the Extreame loue thou bearest to the beawtifull Rosamonde, and the doubtfull estate whereinto her amiable lookes hath brought thee: I am to aduertise thee, in respect of the loue I beare thee, as also the good support I shall one day receiue by thee, that the Prince Caesar of Rome is appoynted for her, and no other then hee shall she haue in marriage. Therefore withdrawe thy earnest desire, and the execution of that thou hast determined: which is, to demand her for thy wife, and to preuent the life of Caesar, whome she entirely loueth and honoreth in heart: assuring thee, that another is reserved for thee, who excelleth in beawtie the faire Rosamonde, and all the other Ladies of Christendome: whose liuely portraite thou shalt see to morrow, brought to the place where thou art by a knight, whome thou shalt vanquish in Combate, and by that means recover her picture. Then taking leaue of the Court, thou shalt trauaile to seeke her in her Countrey, which shall be named to thee by the knight: and neuer feare any dangers in thy journey, for thou shalt be favoured by fortune and me, who haue foreseene all these things that shall happen.

Thy good friend, Orbiconte the wife,
and Prophetesse.

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Palladine hauing read this Letter, was meruailously perplexed in his spirit, doubting whether he might credit the aduertisement of Orbiconte, or execute his intent touching faire Rosamonde: whome he reputed so accomplished with all perfections of beawtie, as he iudged it impossible to finde her second in the whole world. Beside, he was thoroughly inueigled with her loue, as he despaired how he could direct his fancie: on the other side he was as greatly displeased, to vnderstand that she would loue none but Caesar, and that to him she onely was vowed. In these diuers opinions he spent the whole night, yet in the end considering by the Letter of Orbiconte, that what he had pretended was knowne to her, he concluded to credit her message, and especially if the knight came accordingly on the morrow, with the portrait of her he desired so much to see, vpon this determination he slept till morning.

CHAP. XXIIII.

¶ How a Pagan Prince came to the Court of France, bringing with him the portraite of the Princesse Nonparelia: and of the Combate betweene him and Palladine, who hauing woon the portraite, departed from the Court.

TH E next morning, the King and all his Barons being in the great Hall, Palladine, Landastines and Simprinell likewise in companie, there entered a Squire, attired after the *Morisco* manner, who making great reuerence, thus began.

Mightie and redoubted King, I am sent from the Prince Zarcanel of Chipre, who yet abideth without the Citie, to craue licence of your Maiestie, that he may report before you and
P. J. your

your Lords, an enterprize which he hath determined to execute before you.

Squire, answered the King, say to thy maister, that he shall be welcome, and boldly let him enter our Citie: for we graunt him free access to our presence, to open any thing he hath intended.

The Squire returned presently to his Lord, who understanding the Kings gracious answer, commanded his servants to goe to the playne before the Court, and there with all speed to set up his Tent: in meane while, himselfe accompanied with three Gentlemen, came before the King, and hauing humbly saluted his Maiestie, before all the Princes and Lords thus spake.

Gracious Prince, I am perswaded that your highnesse well doth knowe, what authority loue hath ouer humane creatures, and how unable they are to resist his power: therefore I beseech ye not to thinke it strange, if I declare what loue hath enforced me to do.

So it is, that hauing heard the beaultie of faire Nonparelia, so highly renowned about all Ladies in the world: as one couetous to see a thing so excellent, I traualled to *Aquilea*, and there found by proofe, that fame had rather spared then spoke what she might, there I became immediately enthralled with her loue, and by gracious behauiours towards her preuailed so farre, as she accepted me to be her knight: with this charge and condition, that I should carie her diuine figure into the Court of all Christian Princes, where Ladies or Damosels were famous for beaultie, and against all comers to maintaine my mistresse rare preheminance. If forward fortune gaue me the ouerthrowe, then must I leaue to the conquerour my Ladies counterfeite: but if my luckie Starres graunted me the victorie, I am to carie with me the vanquished Ladies portraite. And hauing heard (my good Lord) that your daughter Rosamonde is named among the fairest in Christendome, I directed my journey hither: and

and may it like you to deliuer her counterfeite on the aforesaid conditions, I am readie to do my deuoir in the open field before your Pallace gate, where I haue caused my Tent to be erected. Right well am I contented, sayd the King, and immediatly will I come thither with my daughter, whose portrait shall be there openly presented, and if any one will combate for her, there shall he be to regard her fortune. Palladine standing by, coniectured this to be the knight, whereof the wise Orbiconte made mention in her Letter: wherefore he first auanced himselfe, earnestly intreating the King, that he might defend his daughter Rosamonds beaultie. Whereunto the King presently graunted, scant to the good liking of Caesar, who still bare his arme in a scarffe: and began iealously to suspect Palladine, minding to reuenge him as occasion serued. Upon this agreement, Zarcanel departed to his Tent, where being well armed, and brauely mounted, expected his aduersarie, who not long after came with the King, the Prince Lewes, and many noble Lords in gallant equipage. The Quene, her daughter Rosamonde, and all the Ladies of the Court, came with great speed to their scaffold, to behold the portrait of the Lady so highly commended, which hung on a Lance at the entrance of his Tent: and both the Champions being readie for the Ioust, Zarcanel comming to Palladine, thus spake.

Sir knight, as the huge world can not endure two Sunnes, so may not my eyes abide these two figures, presenting the rarest beaultie in the world, the one of them being a Pagan, and the other a Christian. But this contention betwene vs shall be soon ended, without any fatal hazard of the weapon, if thou wilt confesse before this assemblie, that the incomparable beaultie of my Lady, resembleth the clere Sonne shining in the day time, and thine the Moone that lighteneth the night.

Sir, Sir, answered Palladine, we come not hither to argue on the Sonne or Moone, but at the point of the

Launce, and edge of the Sword, to trie betwene vs the honoꝝ of the feld, whereof if I be maister, I will be your Summe, and you my Spone if you goe to the ground. Without any further speches they encountred together, their Launces being broken with such furie, as the *English* Prince was set on the crupper of his horse, but Zarcanele nothing moued or shaken. In thre or foure courses moze, Palladine could neuer fasten his Launce on his enemie, yet Zarcanele still brake on him, for he was so nimble, and ranne so close to his horse, as each one wondered at his fine chualrie. Without doubt my Lord, quoth the Countie of *Champaigne* to the King, neuer did I see a braver horseman, he hath the raines of his Courser at commaundement, that can gouerne him in such sort without any attaint. But Palladine angrie at his hard fortune, met Zarcanele so right at the first course, as breaking the girths of his saddle, his horse ranne away, and left him behinde him. Yet did he quickly recouer himselfe, and drawing his Sword, came valiantly against Palladine, shewing as fine sleights, and agilitie in the Combate, as he did before on horsebacke with his Launce. In the end, it was his fortune to be ouercome, when vnder the Sword of Palladine he entred into these complaints.

Unhappie that I am, of force I see I must yeld my selfe, and not my bodie onely, but my life also, hauing lost the onely maintenance thereof, the gracious fauour and regard of my mistresse. Ah incomparable miserie, fortune that euer esteemed of me hitherto, hath in a moment vtterly reiected me: therefore good Sir knight, rid me of this paine, and with one stroke end my miserie and life together, for greater good you neuer did to man.

Palladine seeing him in such despaire, so pitied his case, as suffering him to arise, he thus comforted him.

My friend, you ought not in this sort to offend your selfe, considering these are but the tricks of fortune, where to all men are dayly subiect, and no moze hath happened to you

you then might haue done to me. If the Lady for whom you vnderooke this voyage, loued you well, she cannot but augment it, knowing with valour you defended her cause. In sooth my Lord, answered Zarcanele, rather had I die a thousand deathes, then returne to my Lady, hauing not won the portraite of faire Rosamonde: for her selfe protested, that neuer would she loue me except I brought it. And here I vow to you, that I will returne to mine owne Countrey, so soone as I haue recovered my woundes: leaving you not onely the portraite you haue won, but those likewise that I conquered in *Norgalles*, and elsewhere, discharging my selfe of loues seruice, seeing he rewards his faithfull seruant no better. Therein vse your pleasure, quoth Palladine, but first goe with me, that your woundes may be searched to preuent further inconuenience. So going to the King, he desired that his Chirurgions might attend on the knight: for I assure your Maiestie, quoth he, neuer met I with any man of higher desert. Thereto the King willingly graunted, causing Zarcanele to be conducted to the Court, and to be lodged in one of the fairest chambers, where he was dilligently attended, as in ten dayes he was perfectly recovered. When thanking the King for his noble entertainment, and taking leaue of his Maiestie, the Prince Lewes, Palladine, and the rest, he departed toward his owne Countrey, not a little agræued (as you may thinke) for his misfortune.

As for Palladine, he remembering the letter sent him by the wise Orbiconte, and hauing imprinted in his heart the Lady Nonparelia, whose counterfeite he kept with choise regard, determined to take his farewell of the King, and journey with all speede toward *Aquila*. Therefore in the euening, the King walking in his Garden after supper, he told his Maiestie, that he was desirous to trauaile to the King his father in *England*, and therefore that it would please him to licence his departure. The King (though loth) consented thereto, being soze to sozge the

valiant Palladine, who was so great a grace to his Court. Having then taken his leaue of the King, and of all the noble Princes and Ladyes; he departed on the morrow from Paris, accompanied with Landastines and Simprinell, taking his way toward *Millayne*, in hope to finde his friend Manteleo there, but he was as then newly gone toward *Normandie*, to pacifie a controuersie betwene his Father and the Duke, who was a man well provided with money and munition, for he kept diuers Towers and Pirates on the Seas, that dayly brought him great store of good booties.

CHAP. XXV.

¶ How Palladine met with his friend Manteleo, whome he had almost slayne in fight, but that a Damosell discovered his name. And how Palladine slew the Pirate Dormidon.



¶ On the fourth day, after Palladine and his friends departed from Paris, riding through a Forrest, they met a Knight and a Damosell, and with them a Squire grievously weeping: the Squire ioyfull to meete these knightes, came to Palladine with these speeches. Help Gentlemen, for Gods sake helpe me, to be reuenged on this Traitor, who hath slaine my maister by the procurement of this Damosell. Palladine moued with the Squires teares, rode to the knight, and thus spake.

Knight, or paillard rather, what hath moued thee to misuse passengers, and to bathe thy hands in innocent blood: Knight if thou wilt, quoth he with the Damosell; but paillard, reserue for thy selfe: as for him that I haue slaine, he was the cause of his owne death, because I found him

him readie to haue dishonored this Damosell. It is best for thee to excuse thy deede, sayd Palladine, in respect here is none that can contrarie thee: but I rather thinke the shame is thine, then his that is dead, as his Squire hath protested to me. Think what thou wilt, quoth the Knight, but the Squire lieth falsly, and I ought to be better beloued then he, if thou didst me the right belonging to Armes: but credit as thou findest occasion, I haue no leysure to stand chatting with thee. And because thou art so lustie, answered Palladine, thou shalt a little tarie my pleasure. So couching their Launces, they met so roughly together, as they were both cast forth of their saddles: afterward, they continued a cruell Combate with the Sword, till Landastines and Simprinell stepping to the Damosell, demanded of her what the Knight was. Alas Gentlemen, quoth she, his name is Manteleo the Prince of *Millayne*, whome I see verie hardly requited, for deliuering me from the villaine that would haue forced me. Landastines presently stopping betwene them, sayd: Give ouer Sir Palladine, for you fight against your deere friend Manteleo. At these words, the Princes threw downe their weapons, and with all the ceremonious courtesies incident to friendship, they louingly embraced each other: whereat, the Damosell greatly meruailed, and the Squire who was the cause of their fight, whereupon, doubting a further danger toward him, because his maister was slaine in so bad a cause, so fast as he could tooke himselfe to flight.

After the manifold kinde excuses, which friendly enemies vse together, they rode with the Damosell to her Castell, where their wounds being visited, they afterward iourneyed to *Millayne*: Palladine being honorably welcomed by the Duke, and especially fauoured for his loue to his Sonne Manteleo. And hauing feasted there certaine dayes, the Duke recounted to Palladine his present affaires with the Duke of *Normandie*, who after many dishonorable actions, was by his power slaine in a battell: where

whereupon, the *Normans* were content to endure his so-
ueraintie ouer them, and so; that cause had they sent
their Ambassadors. In the end, by the worthie aduise of
Palladine, the Duke tooke the gouernement vpon him, sen-
ding his Sonne Mantelco to receiue the possession thereof.
Now thought Palladine he stayed too long, remembryng
the letter from the wise Orbiconte, therefore would he pre-
sently depart toward *Aquilea*, to the great grasse of the
Duke and his friend Mantelco, being loth to forgoe the
English Prince so soone. Landastines and Simprinell, under-
standing that Palladine would trauaile alone, albeit more
willingly they would haue borne him companie, rode back
to *Norgalles* againe, Simprinell confessing how he had won
the portraite of Brisalda, whereof Palladine made little or
no account at all, because he had now almost forgotten
her. Mantelco likewise went to *Normandie*, where he was
receiued as their Lord and Gouernour, and hauing esta-
blished all matters concerning the common wealthe, he
cross the Seas into *England*, to visit his best beloued Lady
Marcelina, whome he had chosen aboue all other in the
world.

Palladine thus departing from his friends, hauing none
in his company but his Squire Lyccho, and the Shep-
heard Liboran, by whose meanes he entred the Castell of
Brulanfurior, and therefore gaue him the name of Liboran
the well aduised: toke Shipping, and coasting by *Lycia*,
at length they came into *Albani*, where suddenly they
met with a Turkish Pirate, named Dormidon, who thin-
king to seaze on this christian bootie, assailed them, yet in
the end was overcome himselfe, and he with the most part
of his men throwne into the Sea.

After this sharpe encounter on the Sea, Palladine was
desirous to take landing at the nearest Island, least they
should be surprized by any more Pirates: and because he
thought each day a yeere, till he might see the sweete God-
desse, promised him by Orbiconte, he determined not to
rest

rest himselfe in any place, vntill he had found what he so
earnestly desired, charging his Squires thence forward,
to call him The Knight without rest, and vnder this name
hereafter he trauaileth.

The Pilote did as he was commaunded, striking pre-
sently to the nearest Island, which seemed to them verie
beautifull and delectable: but they were no sooner come
on land, and their horses brought on shore, which imme-
diately offered to feede on the goodly greene grasse, but a
mightie flame of fire issued forth of the ground, and con-
tinued before them to hinder their passage any further.
What meaneth this: sayd the Knight without rest to the
Pilote, what may this Ile be named: are we in *Scicilia*,
where many affirme there is a Mountaine, that vomiteth
fire and flame forth in great abundance: No my Lord,
answered the Pilote, we are verie farre from thence:
Scicilie whereof you speake, is in the *Mediterranean* Sea,
and we are in the Sea *Adriatique*, a great distance from
Aquilea: and as my owne knowledge serueth me, I
thinke this soyle is named The Isle of Fire, where hath
bene heard and sene matters of great meruaile. And trust
me, said the Knight without rest, I neuer sawe the like be-
fore: I pray ye therefore stay for me in this place, while I
goe to see the wonders of this Island: and if I returne not
when two dayes are expired, set Sayle and depart whe-
ther ye please. Not so my Lord, answered the Pilote, I
will not weigh Anker, till I see yee, or heare from yee: in
meane while we will expect a lucky gale of winde, that
may send vs merily to *Aquilea*.

¶ What strange and fearefull visions, *the Knight without rest* sawe in the *Ile of Fire*: and how he returned in exceeding greefe, because he could not finish the enchaunments.

Resolved thus to see this strange Island, the Knight without rest mounteth on horsebacke, leaving Liboran in the Ship, and taking his Squire Lycelio with him. Many Cities, Castels, and Fortresses he seemed to see in the fire, yet nothing did so much amaze him, as the voyce and dollozous cryes he heard in the midst of the flame. Ah loue, sayd one, why dost thou still hold me in this miserable paine? doth my offence committed against thy Maiestie, deserue so grievous punishment as this? how ill aduised then was I, to set so light by thy religious lawes and soueraigne authoritie: Pardon, oh pardon him that repenteth, and cease thy iust indignation against them, who while they live, will continue thy faithfull subiects: else graunt them death, which they would endure with willing mindes. Such was the complaint of this sorrowfull creature, which moued the Knight without rest to such pitie, as the teares trickled downe his cheekes with remembrance of the words: and then he called to minde his great discourtesie to the Duchesse Brisalda, whome he had left without intent to see againe, by yielding to the aduertisements of the wise Orbiconte, and so was his minde carped away with the conceite of this aduenture, as he stode a good while silent, not able to speake one word: which when Lycelio perceiued, he sayd: Let vs returne againe (my Lord)

from

from hence, for we are not able to passe any further, by reason of the flame that still increaseth as you see. Lycelio, answered the Knight without rest, if thou dost feare or doubt any thing, I pray thee goe backe againe to the Ship, and leaue me to consider better on these meruailes. I will not leaue my Lord, quoth Lycelio, rather will I die first: but if you thinke to goe any further, you must doe it on foote, for your horse can not endure the fire. On foote will I goe then, answered the Knight without rest: for I neither see or feele any thing as yet, that should hinder me from passing further. With these words he alighted, giuing Lycelio his horse to leade: but he was no sooner dismounted, and had drawne his sword, and put on his shield, but he heard another voyce thus complaining. Alas, commieth he now that shall deliuer me from this torment: or to giue me the death I haue long desired: ah death, death, how swete would thy stroke be now to me? why dost thou deferre to exercise thy office on me? I freely yeld thee my life, and thou refusest or scornest to take it. Then heard he another voyce alittle further from him, saying, How doth my miserie exceed all that euer liued: being desirous of death to liue in rest, and yet by no meanes I can attaine it.

The Knight without rest greatly moued at these speeches, thrust his shield before him, and would enter the flame, but he had so many strokes with halbards, and other weapons, and yet not able to see who smote him, as hardly could he passe any further. But hauing long time fought with these shadowes, at length he came to a Rocke of white Marble, where he was suddenly smitten downe, and the fire seeming to vanish away, such a darkenesse couered him, as he could see neither heauen or earth, but had innumerable strange visions presented him.

First he sawe a huge multitude of Harpies flying about him, making offer to seaze vpon him with their tallants. Then he beheld as many Serpents, howering with their wings

wings ouer him, casting flame and fire out at their mouths: yet could not these, and many other apparitions cause him to dismay, but trusting onely in the God of his strength, they vanished away, and he falling in a sleepe, the wise Orbiconte presented her selfe to him, saying:

*Knight without rest, of whome the heaucns haue care,
Abide not in this place so sad and full of woe:
But follow thy intent which doth more good prepare,
And shall on thee thine owne desires bestowe:
Another man must these aduentures end,
So fortune willes, to whome I thee commend.*

This sayd, she presently departed, leauing the knight to finish his dreame, whereat he meruailed when he awaked, to see himselfe alone in that place, not knowing which way to returne to his company: and as he considered on the words of the wise Orbiconte, he arose, and looking on the Rocks, beheld in the midst thereof a Statue of blacke Marble, holding betwene his armes a Table, whereon these words were written in letters of golde.

*When the muincible Dragon shall be chased into this place
by the fire Serpent, he shall giue end to these enchaunments
by passing the flame: and those two wretched lovers, for whome
the King Brandalisco made these charmes, shall bee then
discouered.*

Hauiug read this prophetic, long time he was thinking on the meaning thereof, yet could he not by any meanes compass it: but true it is, that he doubted (according to the words of the wise Orbiconte) that the ending of this aduenture was destined to another, and not to him, yet if he could he would haue passed further, to see if there had bene any more such matters of regard: but as he made offer to goe, the fire and flame appeared as it did before, and many voices breathed forth bitter complaints. Now happie is the man, quoth he, whose high good fortune shall finish these enchaunments, and thereby deliuer the miserable

nable soules, whose cries are able to rent a hart of Adamant. When he perceiued he might not passe further, but that he was resisted by the flame and diuers that smote him: he returned to the place where he left Lycelio, and mounting on horsebacke, came backe to the Ship. Then recounted he to the Pilote, what he had heard and scene in the Isle, and how it grieved him, that he could not end the enchaunments, onely to release the poore soules that cried to him. So setting Sayle, they coasted along *Dalmatis*, which then was vnder the Turkes gouernement, and so rode merily toward *Aquila*, being then likewise in the Turkes obeyssance, but now subiect to the *Venetians*.

CHAP. XXVII.

¶ How the Knight without rest arriued in *Aquila*, where he was deliuered from danger by a Knight named *Broantime*, who brought him into the fauour of the Gouernour of *Enna*. And of an aduenture that happened at dinner time, which *Broantime* and *Liberan* the well aduised brought to end.



After long and dangerous sailing on the Sea, at length they are come to the Realme of *Aquila*, where the Knight without rest landing with his companie, left the Pilote, directing their iourney vp into the countrey. By the way, the Knight without rest slew a hidious Serpent, preserving the life of a yong Damosell ready to be deuoured: and comming to the Citie of *Enna*, took vp his lodging where he might most conueniently. The name of a Christian being highly hated among the men of this countrey, the Knight without rest was careful to keepe himselfe unknowne, being able to speake the

language and Lycelio likewise: but Lyboran to preserve his life, counterfeited himselfe to be dum, accounting any shift good to escape daunger.

The Gouvernour vnderstanding that strangers were entred the Citie, sent one of his Captaines named Broantine, to enquire of whence and what they were. Broantine comming to their lodging, immediately knew the Knight without rest, being the Knight that accompanied him into *Bulgaria*. when Dardalon defended the Iousts for the Duchesse Brisalda, and brought him to the Citie of *Varne*, as you heard before. Sir Palladine, quoth Broantine, you are hartely welcome hither: what cause hath drawne you into this farre Countrey? long it is since I was last in your companie. The Knight without rest amazed at this acquaintance, especially in a heathen countrey, where he neuer was before, answered. Good Sir, I must desire ye to pardon me, for I do not remember that euer I saw ye till now: and it may be you take me for some other body. So my Lord, sayd Broantine, I knowe ye well enough, for I traualled in your companie to the Court of the Duchesse Brisalda, at what tunc you slew the proud and cruell Dardalon. I thanke ye gentle Sir, quoth the Knight without rest, for your friendly remembrance: but may I request the cause of your being in this Countrey? In sooth Sir, answered Broantine, such enemies I haue in the Realmes of *Dace* and *Bulgaria*, for the death of a knight whome I unhappily slew, as I am constrained to absent my selfe from thence, yet do I hope in time to conquer my troubles, and to returne home againe in safetie. May I then, quoth the Knight without rest, desire this fauour at your hands, to instruct me how I shall gouerne my selfe among these people, for I would not willingly be knowne that I am a Christian, in respect of the danger may happen to me thereby: and therefore haue I changed my name, calling my selfe the Knight without rest, hauing determined to rest in no place, till I haue found one I earnestly seeke for. Re-

ferre

ferre your selfe to me, said Broantine, you shall not be knowne, but both you and they that came with ye, shall be courteously entreated, and the rather, because you can speake this countrey language. I vnderstand it in dade, said the Knight without rest, and speake it indifferently, as my Squire can do also: but this Gentleman (meaning Liboran) is ignorant therein, and therefore counterfeiteth himselfe dumbe, that he might not be knowne, nor we by him. A good deuise, answered Broantine: stay here (if you please) till I returne, I will goe make report of you to the Gouvernour, and by my speeches you shall be friendly welcomed. So went Broantine to the Gouvernour, to whome he said, that the Knight without rest was of his acquaintance, a man valiant, hardy, and couragious, professing the same lawe that he did. The Gouvernour thinking Broantine was a Pagan, and the Knight without rest in like manner, was glad of his arriual, and hoping to haue his assistance in the warres, which the King had with the King of *Panonia*, sent Broantine to him againe, intreating him to dine with him the next day. According to the Gouvernours request, the next day, the knight without rest came to the Pallace, where he was entertained verie honozably, the Gouvernour vsing these words to him.

Sir Knight, our Captaine Broantine hath made such report of your forwardnes in Armes, as while I liue you must account me your friend: and I will let the King vnderstand of your being here, that he may accept of you as men of vertue deserue. My Lord, answered the knight without rest, I beseech ye thus to aduertise his Maiestie, that there is no Gentleman more readie to his seruice, then I will be, and happie do I account my selfe, if I can do any thing woorthy his good liking. In this warres against the King of *Panonia* will I shew my selfe, and this Gentleman (pointing to Liboran) who long since lost his speech, by a catharre that bred within his thoroate: yet is not his vertue or prowesse any thing diminished, for good experience

experience haue I had of his noble chiuallrie. Liboranga, therby countenance of the knight without rest, that he used these words on his behalfe: with reuerence to the Gouernour, gaue a signe with his head and hands, that he was likewise willing to make one in the Kings seruice, which he courteously accepting, embraced them both, being soie that Liboran had such an imperfection, so that long after he was called the dumbe knight. The Gouernour walking with them in the great Hall, declared the whole cause of the warre, betwene the King his master, and the King of *P. monia*, and how within two or thre dayes he meant to bid him battell.

As for the matter of their discord, it grew by this occasion: that the King of *Aquela* refused to giue his daughter Nonparelia in marriage to the King of *P. monia*, nor the yong Princeesse her selfe could not be perswaded to like of him, by reason of the many bad qualities he was endued withall, as also he was a man verie much defourmed. In dede my Lord, answered the knight without rest, I haue oftentimes heard, that the Princeesse Nonparelia is the flower of the world for beawtie, an ill match were it then, that so sweete a Lady should haue a husband so hard fauoured. And the onely cause of my comming into this Countrey, was to defend her hono: in this enterprised warre, as the Lady beyond all other in rare perfections. Some after they sat downe to dinner, where wanted no scope of costly delicacies: and the Tables were no sooner withdrawn, but there entred the Hall a comely aged Lady, her face all besprent with teares, and her sorrowfull looks bewraying the anguish of her spirit. A good while she stood viewing all the Lords, not speaking one word, till the Gouernour moued with pitie, thus spake. Faire Lady, full well doth your countenance bewray, that something hath happened scant to your liking: boldly deliuer the cause of your sadness, and may I in any thing gine you redyelle, be you assured I will persourne it.

Alas

Alas my Lord, quoth she, my case requireth present assistance, for my husband comming with his Sonne to this Citie, onely to aide the King in his warres, foure knights set vpon them in the Forrest nere at hand, and binding them both hands and feete, haue forcibly caried them away, threating in most cruell sort to murther them, for some priuate displeasure conceiued against them. The knight without rest presently offered himselfe, desiring the Gouernour that he might redyelle the Ladies wrong: and hauing obtained leaue for his departure, with Liboran, Lycelio, and Captaine Broantine, went immediately to horsebacke. So riding with the Lady, at length they ouertooke the foure knights, who with great cudgels cruelly did beate the Ladies Husband and Sonne: whereat, the knight without rest highly offended, gaue h spurs to his horse to encounter w them. But Liboran by signes, and Broantine by intreaties, perswaded him to suffer them deale with the foure knights, which they did verie valiantly, and killing them all foure, deliuered the knight and his Sonne safely to the Lady. Afterward they rode to the knights Castell, where their wounds receiued in fight being searched and bound vp, they were esteemed as their vertues deserued, the good Lady vsing all the meanes she could deuise, to expresse her thankfulness for this noble courtesie. But the knight without rest still minded Nonparelia, thinking each houre a yere, till he might see her: and therefore practised as much as in him lay, the speedie recoverye of Broantine, and Liboran, that he might set forward to the mistresse of his thoughts.

P. j.

CHAP.

¶ How the Knight without rest was conducted by Broantine, to the Pallace of the wise Orbiconte: and of the good entertainment she made him.

NOW haue our Knightes well rested themselves at the Castell, and being now readie to depart, while Liboran & Lycelio prepared euerie thing readie: the Knight without rest, and Broantine, walked together in the Garden, where among many other matters, the Prince (perceiuing the faithfull affection of Broantine) beloued his loue to him, which was the chief cause of his trauaile to *Aquilea*. And as for the Princesse Nonparelia, quoth he, the renowne of her exceeding beautie and vertue hath so conquered me, as I haue resolved neuer to loue any other: and might I purchase the fauour of her and the King her Father, I will repute my selfe the happiest man that euer liued. But true it is, and which grieueth me not alittle, she differeth from me in religion, yet time that preuaileth against all things, may winne her to become a Christian. In sooth my Lord, answered Broantine, the Princesse Nonparelia is the most accomplished Lady living, both in beautie, good grace, and all vertuous qualities: and well may you perswade your self to obtaine her loue, in that you are stored with those perfections, that may prouoke Ladies to loue a man. For if question should be made as concerning your estate, you are the childe of a King as well as she, not inferiour to him in riches and renowne. If the case be alleaged of your vertue, prowesse, and magnanimitie: my selfe will not be iudge here in, but innu merable that haue made experience thereof.

thereof. The Knight without rest hearing the words of Broantine, brake him off in this manner. Leaueth these prayes (good Sir) to God, to whome they onely pertain, and from whome cometh all the good we enioy: let vs imagine, by what meane she may haue knowledge of me, without preiudiciall daunger of whence and what I am. My Lord, quoth Broantine, I shall haue good accesse to the King, when I shall present you to his Maiestie: and then may you both see and speake to the Princesse, for she is very gracious and affable, what other stead I can stand ye in, untill the houre of death, you shall commaund me. For this gentlenes, answered the Knight without rest, I shall hereafter be carefull to make some part of recompence, and to begin our frendship, as also to preuent the name of ingratitude: I giue you the Countie of *Orthon*, which is my patrimoine, and which you shall freely enioy, if you like to goe with me into *England*. I thanke ye my Lord, quoth Broantine, for your liberall offer, let vs follow our intent to the King and madame Nonparelia, whom we shall finde at the Court with his Maiestie: where he expecteth the succour from *Illiria*, which doubtlesse will be here within eightene dayes, for then must the battell be fought at *Baldina*. And as we trauaile thither, I will shew ye one of the chiefe singularities in this Countrey, which is the Pallace of madame Orbiconte the wise, the most excellent and sumptuous spectacle that euer was scene. I pray thee good friend, said the Knight without rest, let vs depart and stay no longer, for such report haue I heard of that good Lady, as loth would I be to returne and not to see her, hauing so fit opportunitie to do it: for since I came into this Countrey, I vnderstand that she is allyed to the King, being his Sister, albeit base borne. Without any more speeches, they went forth of the Garden, and taking their leaue of the Knight and the Lady, mounted on horsebacke, directing their course toward *Baldina*: and after certaine dayes trauaile, they came to the Pallace of the wise Orbiconte,

D. y. the

the building whereof was so rare and stately, as in all the world the like might not be found. Long stood the knight without rest to behold this wonder, which Orbiconte her selfe well perceiued standing in her window, wherefore she sent one to open the gate, and they entring, began to admire much more then they had done: seeing the great Court paved with Jasper and Porphyre, and in the midst thereof a gorgeous Statue, being the Goddess Venus curiously carued in Alabaster, and from her two dugs spouted exceeding clere water, which fell into a huge great Basen of silver.

By her stood her Sonne Cupid, with an arrowe drawne in his bowe, as being readie to shote: but so artificially framed after the life, as neuer was a more choyse peece of workmanship scene.

From thence they walked into meruailous goodly Galleries, which were painted round about with Poeticall Histories: as the contention betwene the three Goddesses, Pallas, Iuno, and Venus, the iudgement of Paris, the strange alteration of many metamorphosed louers, and the banquet of the Gods, where angry Tisiphone helwed her selfe.

On the other side were the labours of Hercules, the destruction of famous Troy, and the voyage of the *Argo-nantes*.

There likewise was liuely portrayed the triumph of Venus, drawne in her Chariot by two Turtle Doves, the loue of her Sonne Cupid and faire Psyche, the battailes of many Romaine Emperours, & their severall triumphs in *Roome*: so liuely figured to the eye, as if the persons had bene there in action.

While they thus stood to behold these deuises, the wise Orbiconte caused her three Daughters to attire themselves in most sumptuous ornaments, and afterward came downe with them into the Gallery: which when the knight without rest perceiued, he came and saluted her with great reuerence, and after many sollemne and kinde courtesies

courtesies to the auncient Lady, as also her daughters, the wise Orbiconte thus spake.

Sir Palladine, right welcome are ye to this place: for long it is since I desired to see you here, that I might entertaine you as your vertues deserue.

Padamie, answered the Knight without rest, vnscemely is it that you should so much abase your selfe, as to regard me that am but a poore knight errant.

Not so my Lord, quoth she, conceale not your selfe, for well I knowe of whence and what you are: welcome are ye to my Pallace, where it shall be needlesse for ye to feare any thing, though you are so farre from your owne Countrey, for here you may assure your selfe of safetie. So entring into the great Hall, which was hanged round about with rich Tapistrie, wherein the Histories of great Mahomet was curiously wrought: she welcomed them all againe, Broantine, Lycelio and Lyboran, who still counterfeited himselfe to be dumbe, to whome she said, My friend, speake your language and feare not, for in this place you are in no danger. I knowe that thou art Liboran the well aduised, who with the ayde of Captaine Broantine, deliuered a knight and his Sonne from death, therefore seeke not to hide thy selfe from me.

When Liboran heard what she sayd, he imagined she was some Diuineresse, or one that had a familiar spirit, who acquainted her with matters of secrecie: wherefore in the French tong he replied, thanking her for her exceeding courtesie, and offering her his vttermost service. For which, she was not forgetfull to thanke him, causing certaine of Gentlemen to conduct them to faire Chambers readie prepared for them: and in the Chamber appointed for the Knight without rest, was ingenuously wrought in Tapistrie of cloth of gold, the adulterie of Venus with God Mars, and how lame Vulcane came and found them, with diuers other lasciuious Histories, to prouoke the Prince to carnall delight.

The plealant Historie

After the Knight without rest was unarmed, he came and walked with the wise Orbiconte in her Garden, where in were many beawtifull fountaines, and great abundance of wholesome hearbes, wherwith she made precious vnguents, which she sent to knightes errant, especially such as defended the honoꝝ of Ladies. She walked with them likewise into her Parke, and shewed them what braue game she had there prouided, with all other deuises incident to delight, onely to allure the Knight without rest to stay there, till she had perfourmed her intent foꝝ her Daughters, which within few daies after she cunningly compassed in this manner.

The wise Orbiconte calling her Daughters to her, the first whereof being named Iunona, the second Palladia, and the third Veneria: gaue them especiall charge, to vse themselves in such sort to the Knight without rest, that he might enter into that familiar acquaintance with them, as each thing might sort according to her determination.

And one night while the knightes and her Daughters were dauncing, she walked into her Garden, hauing in her hand a little booke of parchment, couered ouer with black velvet: there framed she such spelles and charmes, and with secret muttering to her selfe, sent such a coniuration abroad, as nothing should preuent what she had concluded. Now doe the knightes repaire to their chambers, thinking to rest themselves as they did the nightes before, and so in dede did Broantine, Liboran, and Licelio, foꝝ their chambers were so charmed, as they could not awake till the next day was verie farre spent: but as foꝝ the Knight without rest, while he soundly slept, and thought no harme, Iunona in her night mantle came to visit him, and so well (it seemed) they agreed together, as the English Prince had the honoꝝ of her virginittie. Palladia and Veneria folloved their Sister in fortune, the issue whereof was such, as when time came of natures appointment, they were deliuered of thre goodly Sonnes, named Clarileo, Clarifardo,

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Clarifardo, and Clarifano. These thre children were carefully nourished, and in their life time perfourmed knightly deedes of armes, whereof we will speake hereafter as occasion serueth.

By this time had the Knight without rest remained here seuen daies, when Orbiconte knowing by her art, that the King her Brother would bid his enemy battell within foure daies, she came to the Prince in this manner.

Sir Palladine, seeing your affection is so forward, that you will assist my Brother in this warre against the King of *Paronia*, it is now high time to thinke on your departure, foꝝ I can assure ye, that within foure daies the fight will begin. Nor can I entertaine any doubt oꝝ sorrow foꝝ the matter, because I haue already foresene, that our enemy will sustaine great detriment, losse and destruction onely by your noble and worthy behaviour, prepare ye therefore to set forward to morrow.

Madame, answered the Knight without rest, if it like you we will depart presently, the sooner shall we come to our iourneys end. Not so, quoth she, you shall be ruled by my direction, foꝝ you haue time enough to trauaile thither. So taking him and his friends into her Cabinet, she gaue the Prince a meruailous costly Greene Armour, to Broantine she gaue one of Azure couller, with a Shield, wherein was portrayed, how he deliuered the knight and his Sonne from death: and to Liboran she gaue a carnation Armour, figuring in his Shield, the Shepheards life he led by the Castell of Brulanfurior. As foꝝ you Sir Palladine, quoth she, I will not giue you any Shield, because, that you haue already is better then any one here, yea, beyond all other in the world, except one that is at London before your Fathers Pallace, which is reserved foꝝ one as yet vnbozne, whose Father and Mother I knowe not, oꝝ the place from whence he is descended. After many other familiar speeches, the knight without rest thus spake to the wise Orbiconte.

Madame,

Madame, because I am loth to trouble your rest in the morning, I and my friends will now take our leaue of you, requesting you to dispose of me at your pleasure, in that I haue dedicated my life to your seruice.

Sir Palladine, answered Orbiconte, I know that my longe desires are now sufficiently acquitted, and your readie good will I haue tried and found: depart in the morning what time you please, and still will I aduertise ye as concerning my affaires, ayding you to my power in all places where you shall come, especially to obtaine your deservied hono^r. Thus went the Knight without rest and his friends to their chambers, where passing the night in some sleepes, they arose early in the morning, and mounting on horsebacke, they rode away merily. But the Knight without rest remembred, how this night he had not bene visited with his accustomed dreames, nor could he forget the words of the wise Orbiconte at his departure, when she said, that her long desires were sufficiently acquitted, whereby he began to suspect, that she by enchantment had caused him companie with her Daughters, but not knowing certainly what to thinke, he remoued his thoughts to matter of moze valew.

CHAP.

CHAP. XXIX.

¶ Of the cruell battell betweene the Kings of *Aquilea* and *Pannonia*, wherein, the Knight without rest, *Broantine*, and *Liboran*, shewed worthy and kniglitly deedes of Armes. And what gracious enterraynement the King of *Aquilea*, his Daughter *Nonparelia*, and the Princes her Brethren made them afterward.

The day being come, that the encamped powers of *Aquilea* and *Pannonia* should meet: *Almiden*, and *Zorian*, Sonnes to the King of *Aquilea*, accompanied with the Dukes of *Sclauonia* and *Liburnia*, raunge their forces in order of battell, the King their Father being not able to be present, because he lay sick in the Citie of *Aquilea*, where he was carefully attended by the Quene, and her faire Daughter.

It was then concluded, that the Prince *Almiden* should leade the auantgard, the Duke of *Sclauonia*, and the Prince *Zorian* the maine battell, and the Duke of *Liburnia* the artergard: then were a legion of *Dalmatians* and *Albanyses* appointed for the wings, being expert warrours with their Darts aboue all other nations.

On the other side, the King of *Pannonia*, his Sonne, the Princes of *Misia* and *Dace*, with the Duke of *Dardania* their confederate, hauing passed the *Alban* Mountaines, were encamped within a league of *Baldina*. And of this Armie, the King himselfe was the leader, hauing in his companie a Giant named *Muzimalde*, the mightiest man in stature that euer was seene, who bare a huge mace of Steele twelue foote in length, being answerable in weight to the greatnes thereof.

The Princes of *Misra* and *Dace* had charge of the maine battell, and the Duke of *Dardania* the ariergard, with two thousand *Thracians* ordained in the wings, which were newly come to giue them succour.

Thus doe these Armies with furie encounter together, and great hauock is made on either side, especially the *Aquileans* were in greatest ieopardie.

But now the Knight without rest, Broantine, Liboran, and certaine Gentlemen appointed by the wise Orbiconte to accompanie them, arriue in the feld, and seeing that side goe to wacke, for whose assistance they trauailed thither: like Lyons and no men they thrust among the thickest, where breaking the aray of their enemies, no one durst stand before them, but paid his life for ransome of his boldnes. At length, the Knight without rest encountred the huge Muzimalde, and though the weightie strokes of his mace did often put the Prince in danger, yet by pollicy and fine chualrie, in the end he got the better of the Giant, sending his soule to the Deuill whome he resembled.

The *Pannonians* at this sight were greatly disheartened, finding themselves vnable to hold out any longer: so the Dukes of *Sclauonia* and *Liburnia* took many noble prisoners, among whome were the Princes of *Dace* and *Dardania*, the Duke of *Misra* being slaine by the hand of the Prince Almiden, and the rest of the *Pannonians* with shame driuen to flight.

When the honor of the day was thus fallen to the *Aquileans*, the two Princes Almiden and Zorian, sent for the knight without rest and his companions: whome after they had embraced, they desired to goe with them to the King their Father, who should remunerate the great paines they had taken. And that his Maestie might vnderstand their good successe, a Courrier was sent before in all haste, and being brought into the Kings chamber, where the Quene and Nonparelia were present, he deliuered his letters, wherein the Princes had not spared to report

report the worthie deedes of the knight without rest, and theirs likewise that came in his companie, so that the King demaunded of whence and what the knight was, who in his cause had behaued himselfe so brauely, whereto the messenger thus answered.

My Lord, it is as yet vnknowne of whence he is, yet this I can assure ye, that he is one of the most godly Gentlemen that euer I sawe. And in the Armie it is reported, that had not he come when he did, and your Captaine Broantine with other in their companie, your Maestie had lost the day: for our auantgard being broken, the Giant Muzimalde laid on such load, as horse and man he strooke to the ground. But at the arrivall of this knight, euen as some God had taken humane shape vpon him, our courage encreased, the huge Giant by his hand was slaine, and all the rest stood amazed, as doubting to fight, or turne their backs.

When the King of *Pannonia* (who was in person in the battell) sawe the onely man he trusted in thus comforted, with his Sonne, and five hundred men, he set furiously vpon vs, meaning to reuenge the Giants death if he could: but this heate lasted not long, for our men seeing the incredible magnanimitie of this knight and his companions, followed him with such alacritie of courage, as the King and all his men were driuen on a heape, and had not a sudden winde and extreame storme fallen among vs, the King and his Sonne had bene slaine or taken. But the weather beating vpon our faces, we could not discern which way they fled, till we espied them on the tops of the Mountaines: whereupon this knight and his companions made after them, killing many of them among the hilles, and brought backe with them fiftene prisoners. For conclusion, I thinke our great Prophet sent this knight, by whome, the Princes your Sonnes and all our liues are saved.

The good King was so glad of these tidings, as he took
D. y. a rich

A rich chaine from his arme; and gaue it the messenger, earnestly desiring to see the Knight without rest, that he might account of him as his vertues deserved: and forthwith he commaunded through his Realme, a generall reioycing should be made for this happie victorie, with bonfires, ringing of belles, and such like signes of gladnes.

The Princesse Nonparelia, hearing the messenger so highly extoll the knight without rest, became immediatly amorous of him: longing for the returne of her Brethren, that she might see the image of her desire.

On the morrow, the king commaunded all his Estates, to goe meete his Sonnes, and the Knight without rest, charging them to honoꝛ him, as they would doo him selfe: which they fulfilled effectually, as in the Chapter following you shall behold.

CHAP. XXX.

How the Aquilean Princes, and the Knight without rest arrived at the Court, and their gracious entertainement by the King, Queene, and faire Nonparelia.



Great haste made the Princes of Aquilea to the Courte, that they might present the Knight without rest, to the king their father, and when they drew nere the Citie, such a multitude of people met them on the way, to see the Knight so highly renowned, as they could not ride on for the prease & throng.

At the Citie gates, they were welcommed with many learned Orations, all the Streets being hanged with costly Tapistry, as it had bene to entertaine the greatest Monarch in the world. And the good old king, very weake and cragie by reason of his late sickness, came in person to the Pallace

Pallace gate, accompanied with all the Princes & Lords of his Court, when his two Sonnes hauing humbly kissed his hand, the Knight without rest would haue done the like, but the king would not permit him, wherefore he embraced him in his armes, as though he had bene as great a state as himselfe.

Gentle knight, quoth he, welcome and sollick in our Court, for such report haue I heard of your vertue and prowesse, as neuer was I more desirous of any thing, then to see that worthie man, who with honoꝛable paines laboured in my seruice, hazarding your life and person, for him that neuer deserved such fauour and frændship.

My Lord, answered the Knight without rest, this gracious kindnesse exceedeth all report, in deigning to accept of me so honoꝛably, I being but a poore and simple knight errant, readie to passe straights of death in your seruice. Ah my Sonne, sayd the king, death hast thou already aduentured for me, for which I cannot returne sufficient recompence: yet if I cannot requite you effectually, my god will shall not want wheresoever you be, in meane time, aske what you will, and be assured to speede. So taking him by the one hand, and his Sonne Almiden by the other, he went vp into the great Hall, where the Queene, the Princesse, and all the Courtly Ladies, being choisely tricked in their brauest accoustrements, welcommed them with meruailous kindnesse, especially Nonparelia, who shined like the morning Starre among the other virgins, her courtesies to the Prince exceeded all comparison.

These Courtly ceremonies ouerpasted, the knightes were conducted to their chambers, to refresh themselves, and change their habites, while the roiall supper was preparing. Now was the Knight without rest thoroughly set to worke, with consideration of the Princesse supernaturall beautie, and longer would he haue continued in this rauishing studie: but that the Prince Zorian came to aduertise him, that the king stayed onely his coming. So

walked they together into the great Hall, where the King caused the Knight without rest to sit next him at the table, and the Princesse Nonparelia right ouer against him: a thing to her no little contentation, that she might behold the worthe personage, who had gained the onely priuiledge of her heart. All supper time, these two louers fed on no other viands, then the one regarding the other with piercing lookes: for their amorous affections so ouermaisterd their senses, as they forgot to receiue any sustenance. The supper ended, the Lords and Ladies of the Court fell to dauncing: meane while, the Princesse Nonparelia hauing noted the gracious behauiour of the Knight without rest, took the hardines vpon her to come nere him, and hauing with great modestie saluted him, thus spake.

As I vnderstand Sir Knight, the King my Father and all his are highly beholding to you, in respect of your honorable paines in the late battell against our enemies.

Alas Madame, quoth he, if I had not as then bene present, yet doubtlesse you had bene assured of victorie; little then is the glorie that I haue deserued.

Wherein you must pardon me Sir, answered the Princesse, for I haue heard credibly reported, that but for you we had lost the day: yet let me intreate so much fauour, as to tell me of whence you are, and what might be the occasion of this great kindnesse, that for my fathers sake you should so gladly thrust your life into danger.

Madame, quoth he, so long since did your diuine name overcome me, and such is your present authoritie ouer me, as death shall not make me conceale or disguise the truth to you. Knowe then swete Lady, and hold it for certaine, that nothing procured me to assist the King your Father in his late warres, but onely your loue, beautie, and good grace: all which I haue heard so generally commended, as now I confesse report hath not feigned.

In sooth my Lord, quoth she, such vertues as you speake of, are hard to be found in me, but let it be as you please to alleadg;

alleadg, yet no one is so much bound to thanke you as my selfe: for if the King my Father had lost the honoz of the battell, too late had it bene for me to renew the peace, falling into the subiection of the verie worst man in the world, to whome my selfe denied the request of marriage, and here hence grew the warre betwene my Father and the King of *Pannonia*.

So much good Madame, quoth he, did I heare before, by the Gouvernour of *Enna*, and the wise Lady Orbiconte, who intreated me and my companie verie honorably at her Pallace, and if in this adion I haue done you any seruice, I account my labour well bestowed, and repute my selfe beyond all other in fortune: hauing disappointed a Prince so contrarie to the vertues and perfections, where with your gracious nature is accompanied, for a man of so bad conditions, ought to haue sorted out one like to himselfe.

In deede my Lord, quoth she, you haue said the truth, notwithstanding, his euill disposed and deformed bodie made me not refuse him, but his great defect of vertue and honestie: for the gifts of the mind are to be preferred before those of nature, yet was he acquainted neither with the one or other. Longer would they haue continued in talke, but that the King commaunded to cease the dauncing, because the Knightes should goe rest themselves in their chambers, wherefore the Princesse (breathing a vehement sigh from her inward soule) gaue the courteous good night to the Knight without rest, who hauing deuoutly kissed her faire white hand, followed the King to his lodging, and there committing his highnesse to the fauour of the night, was by the two Princes brought to his chamber, they both louing him as he had bene their brother, especially Zorian the yongest, who determined to accompanie him when he left the Court, and to seeke aduentures with him as a Knight errant.

As each one thus departed to his lodging, the Princesse called

called Broantine to her, and enquired of him what and of whence the knight without rest was.

Madame, quoth Broantine, at this time I can hardly satisfie you, yet thus much I dare assure ye, as I vnderstand by the wise Lady Orbiconte, that he is descended of royall linage, and one that I am especially bound to, having receiued unspeakable fauours at his hands.

At last, said the Princesse, he may well be said to proceede of royall parentage, in that his ordinarie behaviour declares no lesse: but do you knowe the cause of his coming into this Countrey, so slenderly accompanied, and why he entred a quarrell nothing concerning himselfe?

The cause (as I haue heard) good Madame, quoth Broantine, was the renowne of a Ladies beautie, famed through the world to excell the fairest.

At these words, the Princesse began bashfully to blush, seeing these speeches agreed with those the Prince himselfe spake, which encreased the amorous fire already kindled in her heart: and that did Broantine very well perceiue, yet he dissembled as though he knew nothing. So departed the Princesse to her chamber, and Broantine went presently to the knight without rest, to whom, he reuealed his talke with Nonparelia, aduising him to follow a matter so well begun, for there was hope of good successe to be expected. The Prince embracing Broantine, gaue him thanks for his friendly tidings: and the next day happened a notable occasion, both to the hono^r of the knight without rest and to assure him of the Princesse. For Sulbern cousin to the Giant Muzimalde came and challenged the Combate, against him that slew his kinsman: which the knight without rest accepting, in open field ouercame his proude enemy, and thereby wonne the speciall good liking of the King and the whole Court. Yet was not this Combate fought without great daunger, in respect Sulbern was a man in stature equall to Muzimalde, and two such mighty aduersaries, would put an approued champion to his

his triall: but though the Knight without rest was verie sore wounded, and many times brought in hazard of his life, yet at length he bare away the hono^r of the field, and the head of his enemy as a present to his mistresse. So both Venus lighten all her Lampes, and the religious louers approach her altars, offering by the incense of sensible affections: she triumphing in the loue of so brave a knight, and he glorying in the onely Dame for beautie, the successe whereof hereafter ensueth.

CHAP. XXXI.

¶ How the Princesse Nonparelia came to visit the Knight without rest, what talke they had together. And how the wise Orbiconte came to the Court, who healed the Princes woundes he receiued in the Combate.



Verie dangerous were the woundes of the knight without rest and therefore he was constrained to keepe his chamber eight dayes together, in which time, the Princesse Nonparelia sent often to vnderstand of his health, and went her selfe (as opportunity serued) to see how he did.

But that which most of all grieved these two louers, was, that they could not conferre together so secretly as they would: for she neuer went to him without compaignie of her Ladies, whome she was loth to acquaint with her amorous desires. At length, as one desirous to be resolved of his affection towards her, one day she withdrew her selfe into her chamber, feigning to repose her selfe there all the after none, hauing but two of her waiting Gentlewomen with her, the rest were sporting in the Garden and Orchard: and from her chamber she could goe to the Princes lodging, through the great Galleries:

series vnsene of any, wherefore, accompanied with her two Damosels, she came to the knight without rest, finding no bodie with him but Liboran, who generally through the Court was reputed dumbe, he seeing the Princesse, presently gaue place, walking to the window with the two Gentlewomen, where with signes and gestures he deuised with them, they taking great pleasure to behold him, pitying his imperfection, because he was of stature comely, and gentle in conditions.

While they thus beguiled the time with Liboran, their mistresse seeing the night safely conferre with the knight without rest, satte downe in a chaire by his bed side, and taking his hand to feele his pulses, giuing a great sigh, thus spake.

Alas my Lord, pitie it is that honorable kindnes should be so hardly requited, and though your comming hither hath benefited the King and vs all, yet may you curse our acquaintance, being bought at a price so deere and dangerous.

Not so good Madame, answered the knight without rest, I rather thinke the heauens specially fauoured me, in directing my trauaile to this happie countrie: were it onely but to see you swete Lady, that mine eyes might behold the rare perfections, wherewith mine eares could neuer be gluffed.

You speake your pleasure of me my Lord, answered the Princesse, but were I endued with those titles which you giue me, yet are they farre inferiour to your noble desarts. But leaue this talke my Lord, and tell me how ye fare? and how you feele your wounds recouered? for nothing do I more desire, then to see you well and free from danger. Alas Madame, quoth he, the wounds I receiued in the combate against Sulberne, are nothing in respect of that I toke when I saue you first.

The Princesse well vnderstanding his meaning, yet feigning the contrarie, thus replied.

Why

Why do you not then acquaint the Kings Chirurgions therewith, who are reputed the most skilfull in all this Countrey: tell them your paine, and feare not, for all diseases are easily healed when they be soone taken in hand, and not suffered to enter the bodie too farre. If you will not declare it to them, thinking (perhaps) they can giue you no remedie, boldly may you reueale it to me, as to the most secret friend you haue in the world. And this I dare assure ye, that if your graefe may be cured by humane capacity, my Aunt the wise Orbiconte can do it effectually: and for her will I presently send a messenger, who will not faile to make all possible spede hither.

The knight without rest well noting the Princesse words, was so ramished in conceite, as he was not able to make any answer: but deliuering many a bitter sigh from the bottome of his hart, he lay as one confounded in a trance. Why my Lord? quoth she, what thinke you on? dare you not discouer your disease to me? if you distrust me, I will binde my selfe to you by a sollemne othe, neuer to reueale it to any liuing creature: but will keepe it as secret as your dumbe frände that cannot speake, nor shall the riches of the worlde make me breake my promise.

The Knight without rest would yet make no answer, but still sighing, with wonderfull affection behelde the Princesse: who now changing her cullour, and with the teares triking downe her chokes, continued her speeches thus. Beloeue me my Lord, me thinkes (vnder correction) you doe me wronge, in fearing to betraye your graefe to me, I beseeche ye (if you beare me any good will at all) not to make your harme incurable by defaulte of better raunce to your frände, and consider that silence is the pursse of many mialladies: where contrariwise, disclosing the same in time, the danger is with ease prevented. The wordes of the Princesse, deliuered with such zealous protestations, and with so many gracious offers: caused the Knight without rest (setting all doubtfull feares aside)

It. y.

thus

thus to answer. Madame seeing you haue conured me in such sorte, and haue sollemnely promised withall, to conceale the griefe that torments me, and cannot be sene: I will make known my harme vnto you. And as he would haue proceeded, a Gentleman entred the Chamber, to aduertise the Princesse, that the wise Orbiconte was newly arriued, and that she came to visit the Knight without rest. As the Princesse was going to welcome her Aunt, she met her at the Chamber doore, and coming in againe with her, after she had humblye saluted her, she brought her to the Beds side, the Knight without rest being not a little glad to see her, in consideration of the promise she made him at her Pallace. Courage my Sonne quoth Orbiconte, for ere thre dayes be past, I will make your woundes whole and sound, especially that which toucheth your heart. It is not to be asked, whether these wordes pleased him or no, and she looking on his woundes, anointed them with a precious ointement, which healed them in suche sorte, as in foure and twentye howers the skarres could hardly be sene: then merilye to her Piece she thus spake. Do not you hate this Knight, faire Piece, that hath kept you from marrying with the King of *Panopia*? Weloue me good Aunt, answered the Princesse, I am more beholding to this Knight then to any man els liuing, for he hath saued my life and hono: and may I any way recompence his gentleness, he shall perceiue that I will not be ingratefull. But while the King my Father laboureth to requite his paines, let him be perswaded of my good will toward him.

Madame quoth the Prince, so you continue me in your good grace, I thinke my selfe better recompenced, if I haue deserued any recompence at all: then were I presentlye created Emperour of the worlde. So brake off their conference, a Squire came, who saide that the Tables were couered for Supper, wherfore Orbiconte and the Princesse took their leaue, and went into the great hall. Where
the

The King and the Quene stayed their coming, who welcommed their Sister with mirvailous kindenes, spending the time of Supper with repetition of many matters. The Tables were no sooner with-drauen, but Orbiconte taking her Piece aside to one of the windowes, began with her in this manner.

Since my coming hither faire Piece, I haue perceived that some thing tormentes ye exceedingly: reueale the occasion thereof to me, and if I may stand ye in any stede for your helpe, be well assured I will do it right willingly. The Princesse at these wordes was so affonyed, as she was not able to shape any answer: but shaking like a leafe on the tree, her cullour went and came very strangely, such was her feare that her loue should be discouered. And hauing stayed in this quandarie a good while, at last she perswaded her selfe, that her Aunt by her secret knowledge vnderstood her griefe, wherfore with the teares in her eyes, she thus replied.

Let me intreate you good Aunt, to suffer me endure my mishap in silence, without constraining me to tell ye, from whence my great alteration proceedeth: it is vertue in a maiden to suffer patiently, and shame to betraye her owne thoughtes, though euery hower addeth a worlde of miserie, and burdeneth her minde with more then common cares. Yet this I would haue ye to thinke, that my extremities (as yet) haue not stretched so farre, but to make me skilfull in iudging of a passion: from which heretofore I haue defended my selfe indifferently, accounting it an offence to modestie, to heare so much as speech thereof. Orbiconte desirous rather to encrease her passion then any way to diminish it, thus recomforted her.

You do well (good Piece) in respect of your calling, to conceale the tormentes you endure, and which my arte acquainted me withall ere I came hither, for it is a signe of speciall gouernement, to be carefull of disclosing such a secret, as carrieth greatest regard among all women. But if
K. iv. you

you are so liuely touched with loue, as your gentle hart may be enpaired therby, by meanes of the worthy Knight without rest, who hath done moze for you, then all your fathers subiectes could without him: you must vnderstand, that this is a disease common to euery one, no are you alone, o: the first that hath felte the furie of this passion, but many noble Ladies (bathesall and right modestlye gouerned) haue felt the power of the God of Loue, who ruleth and commaundeth when and where him pleaseeth. For this cause expect the good houre, and befoze your infirmitie rauishle to farre, giue order and remedie thereto in the best sorte you can. I think it not amisse, that you make some experiance of Lones authoritie, but you haue let him enter to farre within your hart, that euen your very soule is penetrated therewith: the best and most awayling counsaile I can giue ye, is to practise some chaste and honest meane, wherby to enioy the summe of your desire, and so shall you preuent infamie and dishonour, which euery creature ought carefully to auoide.

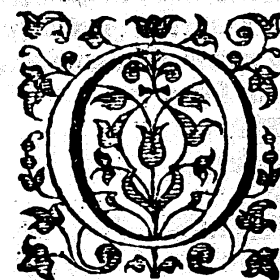
Alas Madame, quoth the Princesse, I know no meane moze honest then the mariage of him and I togeather, but how can that be compassed: o: what hono: is it to me to moue any speeche therof: he is a stranger, vnknownen to me of whence o: what he is, I am not acquainted with so much as his name. Assure your selfe faire Piece and we red Orbiconte, that he is Sonne to a most vertuous King, as greatly renowned as any one in the world: and further I will tell ye as concerning him, so you will promise and sweare to me to kepe it secret, for otherwise you shall put him in great danger of his life.

Ah good Aunt, quoth Nonparella, rather let me dye ten thousand deathes, then be the cause of any displeasure to him: therfore acquainte me with his estate, and I will be directed by you in all my after opinions. But by reason that the King arose and went to his Chamber, their talke brake off, the Queene and her daughter conducting Orbiconte

conte to her lodging: so remained the Princesse perforce all that night, and earnestly longing for the morning, that she might end the talke betwene her Aunt and her, for further knowledge of the Knight without rest: who likewise was no lesse forward in desire, because after supper he had not seene the Princesse and Orbiconte.

CHAP. XXXII.

How the wise Orbiconte tolde the Princesse Nonparella, what and who the Knight without rest was: and how by her meanes, promise of mariage passed between them,



Orbiconte being in her Chamber, was both pleased and somewhat offended: pleased, in that she had sounded the thoughts of her secret: and offended, because she had not concluded her tale, concerning the knight without rest. But no sooner was morning come, when the princesse sent many times to knowe if her Aunt were stirring, and so soone as she was assured therof: she went to her Chamber, where hauing giuen her the good morrowe, she saide: Madame, I haue not forgotten the promise you made me yesternight. Neither haue I god Piece answered Orbiconte, therfore presently will I be as good as my worde. So walking with her into the Wardrobe, and being none but them selues together, she began her discourse as followeth.

Faire Piece, vnder assurance of the promise you made me yester night, I giue you to vnderstand, that the Knight without rest is a Christian, Sonne to the King of England, and his right name is Palladine, giuen him in hono: of the wise Goddess Pallas. And I hauing foresene ere the time of his birth, that he should be the most vertuous and valiant,

ant Prince of his time, and the Children engendred by him, should very farre extell all other whatsoeuer: I then made choise of him to be your Husband, seeing your mother likewise at that time great with Childe, and she deliuered of you sixe monthes after his birthe. That mine intent might sorte to effect, and to make you the onely happy Lady of the world, by enioying a Husband the paragon among all Princes: I solicited him by dreams and nightly visions, yea, by letters and messages in such sorte, as by my meanes he trauailed hether, desirous to see that rare beautye, wherewith I renowned you beyond all other Ladies. And had it not been for my diligent admonition, he had ere this time bene married to faire Rosamonde of Fraunce: where record remaineth of his famous chualrie, as it doth in many other places of the world. But neede-lesse is it to vse many wordes in this matter, you knowe that I desire nothing more then your aduancement, and no man in the worlde is more accomplished with all perfections, either in riches, vertue, braue minde, and all other good qualities: so that if my iudgement faile me not, I think him equall to you euery way, & more worthy to enioy you then any other. If you be deceiued Madame, said the Princesse, much more must I be then, for me thinkes it is impossible to finde his second: so would you haue said, had you but seene his valiant combate with the Giant Sulberne. If then quoth Orbiconte, you knowe so well what he is, he louing you as his own life, & you him in like sorte: I would aduise ye, with all speede to consummate the marriage betwene ye, albeit vniuersen to the King & Queene, and let me deale for their good will afterward. Alas Madame, quoth the Princesse, herein would I willingly obey ye: but that in religion we are too farre a sunder. For that take you no care saide Orbiconte, in that befores it be long, all your Fathers Kingdomes shall be conuerted to Christianitie: therefore boldelye make promise to the Knight, that you will be baptised so soon as you come

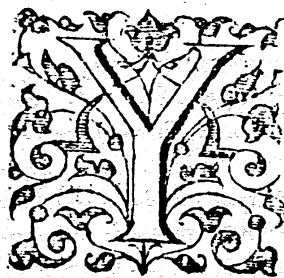
come into England, he hauing first sollemnely swozne to marrie with you, as well I knowe he hath no other intent. Herewith shall his parents be well pleased, and yours hereafter likewise: for then and not befoze they shall vnderstand, that this is for your eternall honoz and profit. Nonparelia, who desired nothing more then the conquest of his loue (and withall, the swete benefite ensuing thereby) whome she had made Lord and maister of her heart, thus answered.

I knowe Madame, that my honozable preferment is the full of your intent, and that you will sheld me from any blemish or reproch: I therefore commit all to your discretion, and will obey whatsoeuer you commaund me. This night then, said Orbiconte, shall you be assured of your louely Knight, and holy vowes of marriage shall be passed between you: afterward, agree as you can your selues, for I will accomplish what I haue promised. So went they both to the Princes chamber, where they found him walking with Captaine Broantine, one that knew the deapth of his desire, yet ignorant what Orbiconte and the Princesse had concluded. Many deuoute courtesies passed betwene them, and Orbiconte taking the Prince aside, thus spake to him. You remember (my Lord) your vowe, when you called your selfe the Knight without rest, that you would neuer entertaine quiet of minde, till you had found your onely beloued in the world, to whome you were dedicated before your birth: now be of good chere, for this night shall you be resolu'd of the Lady, who being free in affection from all other, doth honoz you with the vnspotted loue of a virgin, esteeming of you as her Lord and husband. No meruaile if these newes were welcome to the Knight without rest. who giuing credit to the words of Orbiconte, sealed many a swete kisse on the daintie lippes of Nonparelia, as pledges of a full contract in the sight of heauen; not to be recalled but by death onely. Short tale to make, Orbiconte that night brought them together, and ioyned

their hands with sollemne and sacred bowes, he to carie her with him into *England*, and she there to receiue the faith of a Christian. And thus will we leaue them in their amorous purposes, each comforting other with the arguments of loue: and now let vs returne to the Princes and Knights, whome we left in *France*, *England*, and elsewhere.

CHAP. XXXIII.

¶ How the Prince Don Robert of Frecze, surnamed the Knight of Fame, having taken his leaue of the King *Milanor* of *England*, and *Lydisco*, the Prince of *Hungaria*: found a Knight wounded to the death, and what happened to him afterward.



Ye remember how the Knight of Fame, being vanquished, and sore wounded by the Prince Palladine, at þe Joules which Cæsar maintained for loue of the faire Rosamond; departed with *Lydisco* of *Hungaria*, and crossed the Sea into *England*, where they were graciously entertained by the King *Milanor*, to whome *Lydisco* presented Letters from the Prince his Sonne, and an other from *Landaſtines* to his Daughter *Florea*.

These two Princes hauing sojourned awhile in the Court of *England*, toke leaue of the King and the Ladies, and afterward sundered themselves in trauaile, *Lydisco* iorneying toward *Hungaria* to see the King his Father, who (as he vnderstood) was fallen into a verie dangerous disease. And the Knight of Fame, coasting through a part of *Brittayne* and *Normandie*, went to *Burdeaux*, and from thence into *Spayne*: as much to expell the melancholly, which the remembrance of faire *Rosamonde* charged his thoughts

thoughts withall, as also to make prowe of his valour against the Knights of *Spayne*, who accounted themselves the most valiant in *Europe*.

Being thus landed in *Spayne*, he trauailed through diuers fforrests, till night overtaking him, he was constrained to alight, while his Squire cut down certaine boughes of trees, for his maister to rest himselfe upon. After they had laid themselves downe as willing to sleepe, not farre from them they heard the voice of a man, bratching forth many bitter and dolorous complaints, and as it seemed to them, he was nigh his end, for his words faultred in the utterance, as wanting abilitie to deliuer them; whereupon the Knight of Fame awaking his Squire, said: dost thou not heare one complaine very grievously? I do my Lord, answered the Squire, and belike he is in some great danger. I pray thee then, quoth Don Robert, let us go a little nerer, that we may vnderstand what he saith. So they plag on their Helmes and Shelds, they walked till to the place where they heard the voice, when they alight heare him continue his complaints in this manner.

Unhappy that I am, must I needs die by the traitorous hand of him whome I trusted as mine owne selfe? Ah wretch, why dost thou not tell me thy cruel purpose? it might be, I would haue found means to haue satisfied thee: or if thou hadst yelded me better reason, I might haue desisted from my purpose. For since alas *Osabane*, all the torment in the world, shall not withdeale me from your gracious loue, nor death it selfe, which I feele hath already entered me. O monstrous treason, oh false dissimulation and traitorous *Castilian* Prince. What say I? Prince: if thou be a Prince, thou art one of the very worst that euer liued.

His Lord quoth the Squire to this wounded Knight, you may well belueue and hold so: certaine, as I haue sayd to you many times, that loue can abide no companion: so by the often coming and going of this traytour to *Osabane*.

Dame Minoretta, he could not but seeke to deceiue ye, and to frustrate the hope you had in her : all which you must now endure with patience, seeing we are all subiect to fortunes changes.

If fortune then reward me with death, quoth the knight, iustly may I accuse her of treason, as one that procureth all the mischies in the world. Ah traitresse and weakefull Lady, why didst thou not suffer me to enjoy that honoꝝ, which her diuine nature and beautie had grounded in my heart, and whereto I was solemnely vowed and dedicated : Alas, I feele my strength more and more to forsake me. Ah Minoretta, Minoretta, what wilt thou say when thou hearest of my misfortune : I feare the loue is rated at the price of thy life. Wherewith his spech failed him, and breathing forth a vehement sigh, he yelded vp the ghost. O my God, said his Squire, what shall I now do : where shall I bestowe the dead bodie of my maister : if I returne to the Court of the King his brother, he will suspect that I haue murdered him. Ah swete Lady Minoretta, what hart breaking will this be to you, vnderstanding the death of my Lord, and the occasion thereof. The knight of fame hearing the sorrowfull words of the Squire, and fearing he would depart and leaue his maister : came with his Squire from behinde the tree where they were hid, and seeing the wofull man holding his dead maister in his armes, thus spake to him. Tell me god friend, how did this mishap befall thy maister : The Squire was so amazed, when by the light of the Moone he beheld the knight of fame, and his Squire with him, both their swords being drawne : as he was not able to returne any answer, whereby Don Robert perceiued, that the sudden sight of him affrighted the Squire, wherefoze he thus spake to him againe. Why dost thou not speake to vs, my friend : doubtst thou that we come to do thee any displeasure : perswade thy selfe, that we will assist thee to our bittermost, and therefore feare not to bewray thy mishap,

mishap. The Squire throughly resolu'd by these courteous speeches, casting forth many bitter sighes into the aire, and trembling as the burthen of his graue cause, thus answered. Alas my Lord, right gladly shall I reueale to you, the great misfortune now happened to my Lord, who (as you saue) gaue vp his ghost betwene mine armes, the occasion wherof grew in this manner.

My noble maister while he liued, was bastard brother to the King of Sicilie, yet as dearly beloued of his Father, as if he had bene his lawfull legitimate brother, such was his vertuous and valiant behauiour : and for the King would assure my Lord of his intire good will and affection, he gaue him the Signorie of *Siracusa*, with all the titles and benefites belonging thereto. But my worthy Lord and maister, who was named Don Frionell, hauing about sixe moneths since heard commended, the excellent beautie of Minoretta, Daughter to the King of Portugall : became so enamoured of her, as to compasse the means that he might see her, he craued leaue of the King his brother to trauaile into *France*, as a knight errant, seeking after aduentures. Hauing obtained licence for his departure, in stead of going to *France*, he tooke the way toward Portugall, where being arriued, so well he made knowne his prowesse at the Tilt and Tourney, which dayly he maintained in honoꝝ of the Princesse, as the King entertaining him into especiall fauour : all the Lords and knights of Portugall did the like, so that being well esteemed and honoꝝed of euery one, chiefeely of the Quene and her Ladies, so well he could his Courtship to the Princesse Minoretta, that she accepted him as her knight, and fauoured him aboue all other that made loue to her.

In this time came to the Court Don Galireo of *Cassile*, who no sooner saue the faire Princesse, but presently he was so espiz'd with her loue, as he was readie to die at her foote, and therefore diuers times made offer of his seruice to her : but she made no account thereof, declaring by

her gesture and countenance, that my maister was the only man in her thoughts. Galireo from this time forth, conceived most full hatred against my maister, yet disguised his villanie with such coulers, as though he had bene one of his dearest friends. So that my maister being one day commaunded by his Lady Minoretta, to goe visit a distressed Lady, whome a cruell Gentleman too much wronged: the traitour receiued opportunitie to set his mischiefe abroche, for he being present when my maister took his charge, gaue no shew of contrarie meaning, but no sooner had my Lord restored the wronged Lady, albeit with danger of his person, by reason of certaine wounds he receiued in fight, and returning to the Princess againe: but this day as we came into this forest, where I vnarmed my Lord to dress his wounds, the traitour Galireo, accompanied with foure more, disguised and well armed, awaiting cowardly to take my Lord at this aduantage, came to him with these words: Knowest thou me Frionel? if thou wilt save thy life, thou must here solemnely sweare to me, neuer to serue the Princess Minoretta longer, or hereafter to come in any place where she is. My maister knowing the traitour well enough by his speeches, yet meruailling to make him in this place, because at his departure he left him in Portugal: notwithstanding he was sore wounded and vnarmed, boldely thus answered. Rather let me lose my life, quoth he, and endure a thousand deathes if it were possible; then I will forgoe the service of my mistresse: but while I can lift my sword, will I maintaine her as the vnicke Goddess of my heart. By God, quoth Galireo, but I will make thee sure thou shalt not: so drawing his Countre, and my maister being thus naked as you see, because I was attending his wounds, he neuer left striking at him, till he sawe him fall; when both he and his companions gallopped away so fast as they could. Trust me, answered the knight of fame, thou hast told me the most monstrous tale that euer I heard

heard of: but thou seeing thy maister so misused, why didst not thou helpe to defend him? Alas my Lord, quoth the Squire, there wanted no good will in me, but they that accompanied this traitour, held me with such violence as I could not stirre.

The knight of fame beholding the cruell woundes Don Frionell had receiued, and what a goodly personage he had bene in his life time, sighing, sayd. Oh God, what two dangerous enemies are loue and iealousie: in the world there can not be any worse, whereby men may fall into so great hazard.

Tell my friend, quoth he to the Squire, here must we rest our selues for this night, because we knowe not whether else to goe, and to morrow shall we prouide for thy maisters bodie, whose death I purpose to reuenge, if I may finde the man that so bloodely murthered him, Assure your selfe my Lord, sayd the Squire, that he is in Portugal with the Princess, because for her loue he slewe my maister, who reputed him one of his dearest friends. Where neuer were so great friends, quoth Don Robert, whome loue and iealousie could not moue to discorde, and so for that night they lay downe and slept.

The pleasant Historie

CHAP. XXXIII.

¶ How the Knight of Fame, hauing taken order for the buriall of *Don Frionell*, trauailed into *Portugall*, where he fought the combate with *Don Galitreo* of *Castile*, and what was the issue thereof.



Lære Phoebus arising from the souled armes of faire *Thetis*, the knight of *Fame* awaked, and not able to sleepe any longer, by reason of his troubled thoughtes, leauing the Squires who as yet had not stirred, he walked downe to a Riuer side, where he met an aged *Hermit* with an earthen Pitcher in his hand full of water, and hauing saluted the old Father, demaunded of him, if any *Downe* or *Village* were nere at hand, or any religious *Church* or *Chappell*, where a Knight might be buried, Whome he had found slaine in that *Forrest*. In sooth my Lord, answered the *Hermit*, he is not the first that hath bene murdered in this place, for I haue enterred fiftene or sixtene in my little *Chappell*, which is kept with holie and religious deuotion: where if you please, the Knight you speake of may be buried, and I will helpe to carie him thither, for no other place is nere at hand by two good leagues and moze. Good Father then, said the Knight of *Fame*, your gentle offer shall be accepted, the bodie is not farre hence, and little labour shall you take: for his Squire and mine shall lay him on a horse, and so conuay him to your *Chappell* without trouble. So went he with the *Hermit* to the dead bodie, and awaking the Squires, conuaid it to the *Hermits* *Chappell* in manner aforesaid: where the funerall ceremonies finished, the Knight of *Fame* rewarded the old *Hermit*, and afterward mounted

or Palladine of England. 73

mounted on horseback all thre, riding straight to *Tolledo*, and passing the flood *Doria*, entred the Realme of *Portugall*, where they vnderstood that *Galitreo* was as then at the Court. *Don Robert* sendeth his Squire to the King, to request safe conduct for arriuall at the *Wallace*, which being obtained, in presence of his *Maittie* he thus began.

Wither am I come worthe Prince, to let you knowe, that in your Court abideth the most traiterous and disloyall Knight, as euer was heard of, and who (not four daies since) hath done such a deed in *Spainie*, as no one bearing Armes would haue committed the like. By treason and villanie hath he murdered one of the most valiant Knights in *Europe*: as I vnderstand, for neuer did I knowe the man to be him, till he was dead: he being named *Don Frionell* of *Seuille*, who left your Court by commaundement of *Madame Minoretta*, vpon an occasion best knowne to her selfe. Full well did I knowe the man, answered the King, but name him to me, who slew *Frionell* in such sort as thou sayest, to the end I may cause him come and defend his cause: and if he dis it in manner as thou hast declared, or else can bring any proofe thereof, neuer shall he enter the combate with thee, but iustice shall be inflicted on him as so foule an offence deserueth. As for me my Lord, answered the Knight of *Fame*, I can make no other proofe thereof, then by this Squire that serued *Don Frionell*, in whose armes I saue the Knight breathe his last, and dying confessed, that the *Castilian* Prince slew him by treason: wherefore my Lord send for him, and if he denie it, here am I readie to auouch it, and by my sword will make him confesse it.

The King hearing him name the Prince of *Castile*, was greatly astonied hercat, for he knew not that he was absent from his Court so lately, and the Quene with her Ladies being present, were no lesse abashed: but aboue all, the *Princesse Minoretta*, who hearing the death of her valiant Knight, whome she in loue had made chiefe account of.

of, immediatly such sorrow stroke to her heart, as her speech failing her, and a cold chilling blood passing the conduits of her vaines, she leaned on the lap of her Gouvernesse, where falling in a dead traunce, all the Ladies had much ado to get life in her againe. But she being recovered, and each one placed as they were before, Galitreo was sent for, to whome the King thus spake.

Belæue me Galitreo, I alwayes conceiued well of you till now, perswading my selfe of your truth and discretion, that nothing in the world could moue ye so much as to thinke a bad thought, much lesse to commit any act of treason. But what I say, this knight auoucheth, that in *Spayne* you haue done a deed of high dishonour, where you being armed and well accompanied, outrageously set vpon the noble Lord Don Frionell, he being naked and without defence, then and there you cruelly murdered him, yea, for a cause of no weight as I vnderstand: what answers make ye to this accusation? If Galitreo were then doubtfully surprized, I referre to the iudgement of like minded men: but hauing beheld the stearne countenance of the knight of fame, with counterfeited reuerence thus replied.

My Lord, not onely now, but at all times, calumnious, and false accusers are easily found, the greater part of the auncient Romaine Histories are storied with examples thereof: but in the end, such bastard-brode of detractours, haue felt the desert of their laniish tongues, and innocencie hath vaunted with triumph. This speake I in respect of this paillard, who (vnder your Maiesties correction) hath falsly lied, and as a lecher is to be esteemed. For the worthy Lord Don Frionell, was one of the dearest friends I had in the world: beside, I dare gadge my life, that this false wretch knowes me not, or euer saw me before this instant. I belæue well, quoth the Squire to Don Frionell, that this knight had no knowledge of you till now: but I am assured that he hath spoken truth, and so

so my maister himselfe confessed at his latest gaspe, that because Madame Minoretta fauoured him, and despised you, therefore you wrought his death in that cruell manner. The knight of fame perceiuing, that Galitreo had no great mind to the combate, interrupted the Squire, and thus spake to the King. I see well my Lord, that Don Galitreo despairing of his cause, desires to trifle the time with many circumstances, in that he thinketh me vnable to auerre mine accusation, because I want further testimony, how he and his complices masked and disguised, did the shamefull deed of death and murder: may it therefore like your Maiestie to graunt vs the combate, and in fight will I make manifest his treason. Presumptuous as thou art, quoth Galitreo, dost thou thinke I feare to mee thee in plaine combate? no, so please my Lord the King, I accept thy challenge, and hauing giuen thee the due belonging to a false barlet, will follow the quest of my dearest friend Don Frionell. Him must thou finde dead, quoth the knight of fame, sone enough to thy shame, not farre from the place where thou didst murder him, in a little Hermitage in the same Forrest, where I caused him to be interred, as his Squire and mine owne are able to testifie. Whereupon, the King called two auncient knightes, who hauing heard the difference betwene the knight of fame and Galitreo, he demaunded their aduise in this doubtful matter. They thought it expedient, that the combate should be graunted them, to end the controuersie of further proue: because Frionell might be slaine by the accuser and his Squire, as by Galitreo that stood accused. Wherefore the King graunted them the combate at the Lance and Sword, as is common among all knightes, appointing the Marquesse of Villereat, and the Countie of Marthe, Judges of the feld. All this while, the Princesse Minoretta continued her pensive moones, praying for the prosperous successe of the newcome knight, and the confusion of the traitour Galitreo. On the morrow, was this

doubtfull combat tried, being fought on either side with such exceeding valour, as they both fell downe soote to soote, that each one reputed them both for dead: but when the knight of flames helmet was opened, and he had receiued the fresh aire, he came to himselfe againe, albeit Galeteo was slaine outright, and therefore condemned as soyled in fight.

The king glad of this happie victorie, intrated the knight of flame as he had bene his owne Sonne, causing his Chirurgions to take care of his wounds, and during the time of his abode there for his health, the continuall good countenance shewed by the Princesse Minoretta made him liue in hope to obtaine: but he was preuented by the king of Nauarre, who sending his Ambassadors to demand the Princesse in marriage, had his request graunted by the king.

The knight of flame seeing himselfe so infortunate in obtaining a wife, so soone as his wounds were thoroughly cured, tooke his leaue of the king and departed, with intent after he had seene his owne countrey, to trauaile into England againe, to be reuenged on Palladine, for the foyle he susteyned at the Ioustes at Paris, so mounting on horseback, he tooke his way directly toward Friezeland. And not able to continue there any long time, because his conceiued hate was such toward the English Prince, he trauailed thorough Scotland, who meeting suddenly with Simprinell, and not knowing him, a quarrell arose betwene them, the knight of flame discommending Palladine, and vowing reuenge on all those that durst take his part, which Simprinell vndertaking, they fell from words to strokes, and such was the good fortune of Don Robert, as hauing the better of Simprinell, he departed, leaving him there very sore wounded.

Manteleo the Prince of Millayne, whome long since we left in his iourney toward Normandie, desirous to see his swete mistresse Marcelina, by good hap found Simprinell

nell thus dangerously wounded, and hauing vnderstood the whole summe of his misadventure, promised to follow the knight who had thus wronged him, and to reuenge his cause though it cost him his life.

Now must I giue you to vnderstand, that Manteleo and the knight of flame were very nere allyed, the father to Temoreo the Duke of Millayne, being brother to Don Roberts mother: yet this kindred being forgotten betwene them, or at least their angrie displeasure preuailing about the remembrance thereof, caused them (meeting together) to put each others life in very great danger. And being afterward brought by their Squires to a Gentlemans Castell nere at hand, where Simprinell likewise lay for the recouerie of his woundes, they had knowledge of each other, when sorrowing their meeting was in such vnhappie sort, with friendly greetings, they excused all that had passed, riding with Simprinell to the king his fathers Court, where they were entertained as becomed their honorable calling.

CHAP. XXXV.

¶ How the great Turke sent his Ambassadors to the King of Aquilea, to request his Daughter Nonparelia in marriage: and what sorrow it was to her, and the knight without rest, when they heard the King giue his consent.



ALL this while remained Palladine with his faire Nonparelia, in the greatest pleasure and delight that could be imagined, till fortune, enuious of their successe, sought to crosse them with her wanted forwardnesse: which Orbiconte by her knowledge well perceiving, and that now if she layd not to her helping

ping hand, all the promised good hap would be squandered for euer, to terrefie the two louers alittle, she came and bzake it to them in this manner.

It is a common saying, my good friends, that dangers forgetold, hurt the lesse when they come to passe, hercby am I to aduertise ye, that such a matter will shortly happen, as can not but be to your great disliking: yet be of good chære, and endure it with resoluèd pacience, for I will preuent the effectuall working thereof. But to hold ye in no longer suspence, knowe, that this night past I made a figure, to vnderstand thereby, if your mariage were to be hindered by any contrarie accident: and I finde, that a mightie Lord, euen he that commaundeth ouer all these countries, will shortly send to request my piere in mariage, whereto the King her ffather will gladly giue consent.

At these words the Princesse fell in a swoone, and the Knight without rest was ineruailous impacient: but Orbiconte hauing recouered her, in this sort began to perswade her. Why faire piere, doe you dispaire or doubt, that I can not hinder the mariage betwæne you and the great Turke: knowe you not, that I haue done things of greater valew then that: I neuer thought you had such diffidence in me. Who brought Sir Palladine into this countrey but I: and who gaue you the honoz of his loue, but I: and if I haue bene able to doe all this, thinke ye I can not wade through matter of lesse moment: Quiet your selfe, and feare not, but I will compasse your mariage to your owne content, without displeasing my Lord the great Turke, or the King your ffather, notwithstanding his promise.

Alas my good Aunt, said the Princesse, it is not for my fathers ease, to purchase himselfe so great an enemy as is the great Turke, who in thre dayes is able to ruinate our whole countrey: and hauing so bad a neighbour as is the King of *Pacton*, who doubtlesse would gladly with the

the great Lord, in reuenge of the late foyle he sustayned, I see no way to preuent fatall danger.

Why Madame: quoth the Knight without rest, victorie consisteth not in strength or multitude, but in the policie of the Captaines, and discretion of the Souldiours to pursue an enterprize, as many examles are left among *Romunes*, *Carthaginians*, *Athenians*, and infinite other, where a small power hath preuailed against the greater, onely by the wise foresight of their leaders, and withall, hauing truth and iustice on their side. Let vs, said the Princesse, not stand upon pollicie, or the truth of our cause, we can not be moze subtile or hardie then they are: and as for our right in the matter, what reason shall my ffather haue to denie so great a Lord: great I may boldly say, because in all the world he hath not his second, both in riches, puissance, or any thing whatsoever. Alas good piere, said Orbiconte merrily, stand not on these doubtfull tearmes, for the case shall neuer be aduentured so farre: cast all your care on me, as yet (I thinke) I neuer sayled ye. So parted they to their chambers, where the Princesse remained in a hell of græfe, such was her intire affection to the Prince of *England*. And he likewise could resolve on nothing, for now he thought to request the Princesse in mariage, before the coming of the Ambassadors, perswading himselfe that the King would not deny him: then againe he dispaired of the matter, repating himselfe unlikely to enioy her, by reason of their contrarietie in faith and religion, the King being an earnest maintainer of the *Pagan* lawe. Nor would this imagination serue, wherefore he intended to steale her thence secretly, and to carie her with him into *England*, while Orbiconte laboured at home to appease the trouble that might follow. In the end, he repozed himselfe on the faithfull promise of Orbiconte, and desired his Lady to doe the like, because he had found her so iust in all his former fortunes. But now are the Ambassadors come to the Court, where being entertained

entertained with great pompe and royaltie, he that was appointed chiefe in the embassade, thus deliuered his message to the King.

King of *Aquilea*, the high and mightie Lord my maister being aduertised of the rare vertues wherewith thy Daughter is endued, hath sent me to intreate thee, that thou wouldest bestowe her on him in marriage: and in so doing, he bolues himselfe thy friend, and a continuall enemy to thy ill willers.

Wherewith he deliuered the Letters of credit, signed with the hand and scale of the great Turke: wherewith the King no lesse ioyfull then amazed, that his Daughter should arise to so high fortune, without crauing any aduise in the cause, thus answered. I thanke my gracious Lord with all my heart, that he will so honoꝛ me with request of my Daughter in marriage: and her do I freely giue him, with all that is mine at his disposing.

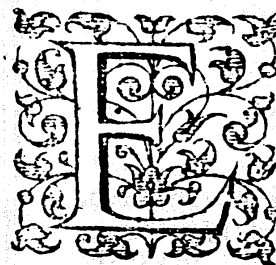
Then did the Ambassadour present the King, sixe goodly Coursers of *Turkie*, sent him from his Lord and maister, and to the Princeesse he gaue a sumptuous Carbanet, garnished with Carbuncles, Orientall Pearles, and stones of inestimable valew, which she receiued with good countenance, albeit God knowes with a heauie heart, in which græse, the Knight without rest bare her company, yet durst not outward shew therof. This costly Jewell the Quene immediatly fastened about her Daughters neck, being commended for the rarest that euer was seene: afterward the King walked with the Ambassadors, doing them all the honoꝛ he could any way deuise.

While all the Court were busied, Orbiconte came with Nonparelia to Palladines chamber, and there concluded, that he should on the morrow take his leaue of the King, framing his iourney directly toward *England*, where the Princeesse and she would in short tyme meete him: willing them to make no shew of sorrow at their departure, least suspicion might preuent what she had intended, but to resolve

solue them assuredly, that all her promises should sorte to effect. The Knight without rest did as he was aduised, and albeit it was long ere the King would giue consent, because he loued him very dærely: yet at length (with much adoe) he preuailed, the Prince Zorian obtaining leaue of his father to accompanie him in trauaile, because his Halesie thought he could neuer haue a braver companion. Many rich giftes the King bestowed on the Knight without rest, especially one of the Coursers sent him from the great Turke, and other thinges needfull to be vsed in trauaile, and thus he prepared him selfe toward his iourney, reposing his confidence in the wise Orbiconte, that he would bring his Lady safely into *England*.

CHAP. XXXVI

¶ How the knight without rest and the Prince Zorian, departed from *Aquilea* toward *England*, and how the Knight without rest by the waye, discovered him selfe to the Prince Zorian: who when he came into *England*, was baptized, and betrothed to the faire *Graciana*, daughter to the Earle of *Flanders*, and the like was *Mamelio* and *Landistines* to their Ladies.



Every thing being in redines for our knightes trauaile, after all the ceremonious conges at the parting of frendes, the knight without rest, Zorian, Broantine, Lyboran and Lycelio, all brauely mounted in seemely equipage: they leaue the Courte of *Aquilea*, and toward *England* iourney with all conuenient speede, the Knight without rest being especially induced to this haste, because he expected the promise of Orbiconte, some after would followe him with the faire Nonparelia.

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Many worthy aduentures they had by the way, as defending chaste Damoselles from forced violence, and helping distressed Ladies to their suborned right: which growing to more tediousnes the delightfull matter, I haue thought good to abridge, as lothe to speake of any thing but what is worth the hearing.

When our knightes were entered the Realme of *Almaigne*, and the *Englishe* Prince had made good triall of Zorians loue to him: one night as they laye in Bed together, he entred into these speeches. My Lord Zorian, the friendship solemnely swozne betwene vs, and the proof of your ready good will in all my actions: will not let me hide one thing from you, which till this present I haue kept with great secrecie, both from the knowledge of the King your Father and you, onely by the perswasion of the Lady Orbiconte your Aunt, to whome I am more beholding then any other living creature. For in my iourney toward *Aquilea*, oftentimes did she preserue me from the danger of death, and by her meanes I left the Court of the King of *England* my Father, by her promise that I should enioy your faire Sister in marriage, in recompence of some service I should doe to the King your Father: and this by her secret knowledge she likewise tolde me, that all your Fathers dominions shall be shortly conuerted to the Christian faith, which I professe, and will doe till death. When he recounted, how Orbiconte sent him the Sheld he bare, and shewed the Sword wheron the name of *Aquilea* was engrauen, being brought to him by the enchaunted knight and two Damosells. He likewise declared how he changed his name because he would not be knowne, and that Liboran only counterfeited dumbnes, being not able to learne the *Aquilean* language: all the rest of his traualles at full he opened, his right name and whether he now iourned.

In soth my Lord Palladine, answered Zorian, such resolute opinion of your vertues haue I imprinted in my hart

hart, as though you be contrary to me in loue and profession, yet shall not my good will slack, or I forgoe your company: but I would the time were come, wherein my Fathers kingdom shall embrace Christianitie, which I already begin to like so well, believing that your God is of greater power then ours, as all our successfull diides of armes beare witnes: that ere long will become a Christian. Yet one thing chæstye doth displease me, that my Sister is promised in marriage to my Lord the great Turk, which will be the occasion that my Aunte Orbiconte cannot keep her word with you.

My Lord and companion saide Palladine, that I haue your good liking in this cause; in soth it doth not a little content me: but as for your Sister, there is nothing yet done but may easily be altered. Madame Orbiconte hath promised to content the great Turke and your Father, and in fewe dayes will safely arriue with your Sister in *England*. I would we might finde them there quoth Zorian at our coming, you may be assured I would not hinder your marriage, but assist it to the uttermost of my power: for more account doe I make of your loue and friendship, then all the wealthy possessions of my Lord & great Turk. And one thing will I intreat ye faithfully to promise me, that the next day after our arriual at your Fathers Court you will take such order as I maye be baptised in the faith of a Christian, for I feele my conscience that way earnestly addicted.

Palladine not a little ioyfull of this request, promised to perforce what he had desired: so sleep causing them to breake off talke, the next morning they were earlye on horse backe, and passing the *Rheme*, they entred *Lorraine*. Afterward trauersing the *Ardeines*, *Luxembourg* and *Liege*, they came into *Brabant*, and from thence (after many aduentures ended) they crossed through *Flandres*, taking shipping at *Calis*, and in shorte time landed at *Douer* in *England*, where they stayed two or thre daies to refresh them.

The plealant Hiltorie

them selues. Then comming to *London* to the Court, God knowes what ioy was there made for their arrivall, the King to see his Sonne returned. Mantelco and Landastines their long absent friend, and the Citizens their yong Prince whome they feared was lost: let all their ioye be compared together, and thinke of what efficacie so great a matter is, because pen and paper cannot disclose it. Palladine not unmindefull of his passed promise, acquainted the King his Father with the state of Zorian, how graciously he was entertained in the Court of *Aquilea*, and how the Princes Sister was comming after with her Aunt, a Ladye of incomparable vertues and graces, and her noble brother renouncing his paganism, desired to be received into the fellowship of Christians, not being able to enioy peace in conscience, till he were deliuered of his vnbeliefe.

The King excedding glad of these good newes, caused such royall preparation to be made against the next daye, as at a matter of such solemnitie is required: there was Zorian and his Squire christened, the King, the Duene, and the Earle of *Flumders* witnesses to the Prince, and Palladine, Mantelco and Marcelina to the Squire Ligasto. Returning from the Church to the Pallace, there was ordained a sumptuous feast, and Zorian well regarding the Ladies of *England*, among them all liked Graciana, daughter to the Earle of *Flumders*: being then sodenly so enchanted with her, as he secretly vowed neuer to loue any other while he liued. Palladine perceiving his amorous glaunces on Graciana, and noting the many alterations of his countenance: immediatly knew what disease he was troubled withall, which he desirous to mitigate, and to pleasure the Prince Zorian to his uttermoste, the tables being withdrawn, he took Graciana by the hand, and bringing her to Zorian thus spake.

My Lord and noble companion, for my sake loue this beautifull Lady, she is named Graciana: and I hope you shall

or Palladine of England. 79.

shall finde her nature answerable to her name, to wit, gracious, vertuous and honest.

I promise ye my Lord, quoth Zorian, you haue done me the greatest pleasure in the World, bringing to me a Lady so worthily accomplished, that I might learne to imitate her vertues: which haue pearced my hart in such sorte, as would she accept me to be her Knight and seruant neuer should any other Lady haue the hono^r of my loue, I perceiue well then said Palladine, that you are touched to the quick, doe you twaine deuise togeather, and in meane while, I will goe talke with the Countie her Father. So taking the Earle of *Flumders* aside, he rehearsed to him the manifold vertues of the Prince Zorian, and how intirely he loued his Daughter, thinking it a great preferment to her, if she ioynd with him in mariage. Like speeches bid he vse to the Duene his Mother, who was Cousin germaine to the Earle of *Flumders*, and betwene them bothe handled the matter so effectually: as within two dayes Zorian and Graciana were affianced together, their mariage being deferred, because of Ambassadors were gone to *Norgalles* and *Millaine*, to conclude the mariages betwene Landastines, Mantelco, Marcelina and Florea, and the Princes Fathers consent obtained, all these mariages should be solemnely perfourmed togeather: But twenty dayes being now past, and Palladine hearing no tidings of Nonparelia, he began to waxe melanchollye, halfe distrusting the promise of Orbiconte: yet did not this pensiuenes continue long, for she arrived some after as you shall presently perceiue.

The pleasant Hystorie

CHAP. XXXVII.

¶ How the Princesse *Nonparelia* was deliuered to the great Turkes Ambassadors, and how by the forceries of the wise *Orbicone*, the Ships were scattered, and what persuasions she vied to the Mariners, who were very lothe to saile into *England*.



Within three dayes after the departure of *Palladine* and *Zorian* from *Aquileia*, *Nonparelia* was honourably deliuered to the great Turkes Ambassadors, and with meruailous royaltie conuaid on Ship boorde, accompanied with her Aunt *Orbicone*, and a seemely traine of Ladies beside. The Ankers weyed and the sayles hoysed, they launche into the deepe, the Princesse still fearefull to lose the true owner of her loue yet comforted by her Aunt, that in few dayes they would see *England*.

Being entred the *Mediterranean* Sea, *Orbicone* saw it was time to set her practise a worke, and seeing the Pilots and Mariners were all at rest, with a Booke in her hand she came vp on the deck: where breething her charmes into the aire, and filling the sayles with her unhallowed spelles, the winde began to blowe terribly, and the Seas were troubled with wonderfull roughnes, that the Mariners awaked with the horrour of the storme, awaiting euery hower their vtter destruction. In this tempest the Ships were seperated so farre a sunder, as the Turkes dispaired of euer meeting againe, so that the vessell wherein the Princesse and *Orbicone* were, by daye was on the borders of *Scythia*, and very nere to the *Libean* promontarie, albeit the Pilot could not tell in what Cuntry they were. Then
Orbicone

OF PANACHE OF ENGLAND. 80

Orbicone calling the Gouernours of the Ship to her, and the Gentlemen appointed to attende on the Princesse in the presence of her Piece thus spake to them.

You haue seene my good frendes in what extreame danger we haue bene this night past, and I thinke there is no one amonge yee, but is perswaded that our Gods haue especially preserved vs, yea, by wonderfull miracle from shipwacke, wherewith euery minute of an hower we were threathned. In like sorte you may imagine that not without some secret and hidden cause we are caste into these partes, and scattered from the Ships of my Lordes Ambassadors: hereby do our Gods euidentlye manifest, that men, how strong or puissant so euer they be, cannot bring to end any intended enterpryse, vnlesse it be ordered by their fauour and direction, and hereynce ariseth the the common prouerb: That men purpose, and the Gods dispose. It is well knowne to you, that the King my brother hath graunted in marriage my Piece *Nonparelia* to our Lord the great Turke: but our Gods (from whose sight nothing can be shadowed) knowing what before was accorded, and concluded betwene her and the Knight without rest, whome you haue seene in my brothers Courte, he being the Sonne of a mighty and puissant king: haue apparantly reuealed, that their faithfull promise to each other must not be falsified, promise (I say) of marriage betwene them, wherof my selfe am a sworne witnesse. In vaine is it then for you thus to alleadge, that the Knight without rest is a Christian, and my Piece a Pagan: but let it suffice ye, that our Gods will haue it so, as you in short time shall see further experience.

Do you therfore direct your compasse to the coaste of *Spain*, that from thence we maye saile into *England*, the seate and Kingdome of the Knight without rest, after the decrease of his father who is yet liuing. Feare not any inconuenience that may ensue hereby, for I will be your safe protection, and no worse shall fall to you hereby then to my

to my Pièce and my selfe; and of her haue I greater care then were she my owne Daughter.

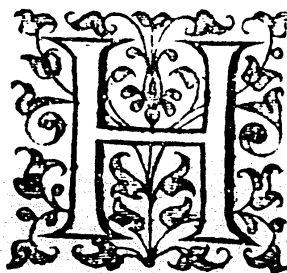
Wherewith she paused, expecting what answer they would returne: but discerning by their countenances, that they liked not her speeches, as also they were loth to come among the Christians their enemies, without a better warrantise of their safetie, she began againe in this manner.

Why my frendes: are you so fearefull as you shewe your selues: doe you think any harme shall happen to you in my companie: am not I and my Pièce sufficient for your assurance: what other safe conduct would ye haue: we goe into the land of our kindred and friends, to confirme a perpetuall peace and concord, with one of the moste vertuous Princes in the world. My Nephewe the Prince Zorian, who departed (you knowe) with that gentle Knight: there is he louingly entertained & fauoured, by him whom the Gods preordained to be my Pièces husband. Saile we on then merilye, and feare not the displeasure of the King my brother: for well am I assured, that they will not dislike this mariage. And were I not fullye perswaded, of what I haue saide, that the ende of our enterpryse shall sorte to a generall benefit, yea to a full resolved ioye and content on all sides: I would not haue aduentured thus farre, being as carefull of your good as mine owne life.

These speeches so thoroughly animated the Partners and Gentlemen, as they promised to fulfill what she gaue them in charge, being certaine that Orbiconte tolde them nothing, but what she had forescen by her wonderfull knowledge: and therefore passing by Hercules pillers, they entered the Ocean, directing their compasse toward great Britaine. By y way, they were set vpon by three pirates, who seeking to take the spoyle of the Ship, slew many Gentlemen and Partners, and when they were brought to the very last extremity, that they thought verily to be taken by the Pirates: these English Shippes came to their rescue, wherein

wherein the high Admirall of England was, who had bene in Portugal with the King, to aduertise him of the mariage of his two Pièces, to the Princes Mantelco and Landallines. The Ships of England encountred the Pirates, and after long fight toke them: then coming to knowe of whence the Ship was that had bene so distressed, the man that was sent to demaund the question, was Captaine Broantine, who accompanied the Admirall in this voiage. Joyfull was Orbiconte when she beheld Broantine, and coming on board the Admirall, to whome Broantine revealed of whence they were, and that Palladine long expected their arriual in England: it is not to be asked how courteously he entertained them, vowing to take sharpe reuenge on the Pirates for their villainous dealing. Broantine declared to Nonparelia, the health of Palladine and her brother Zorian, how he was Christened, and affianced to the faire Graciana of Flaunders: which newes pleased her not a little, as also this happie and fortunate deliuerance, which she verily thought hardly to escape with life. The Admirall made them the best chere he could on Ship board, and afterward committed them to the charge of Broantine, to see them safely conducted into England: himselfe taking order for the Pirates Ships, which after he had ransacked as he pleased, he followed withall, as wind and weather gaue him leaue.

¶ How the Princeſſe *Nonparelia*, and *Orbicone* arrived in *England*, where they were royally entertayned by the King and his Princeſſe: And how *Palladine* bewrayed what had paſſed betweene him and his Lady, where-with the King and Queene were well contented.



Having ſayled with a good and proſperous winde, at length the Ships came on the cape of *Cornwall*, and from thence to the *Iſle Benedict*, where coaſting as occaſion ſerved, leauing the cape of *Pinda*, they toke harborow in the *Ile of Wight*: from whence *Broantine* ſenta *Wigandine* before, to aduertife *Palladine* how nere his Lady was, the wiſe *Orbicone* waiting to him in this manner.

The Letter from the wiſe Orbicone, to Palladine Prince of England.

THEſe are to aduertife ye, Lord *Palladine*, that by the aſſiſtance of the higheſt God, my Piece *Nonparelia* and I are ſafely arrived in the *Iſle of Saint Helena*, from whence, we will ſhortly ſet forward, according to the promiſe I made at your departure from *Aquileia*, having done my uttermoſt in your cauſe for my Piece, who (as you knowe) hath refuſed the great Emperour of *Turkey*, making choiſe of you aboue all other, in reſpect of your faithfull bolue to her, made in my chamber at her Fathers Pallace, which I hope you will not now forget, conſidering what hath bene done at your earneſt inſtance. Therefore (if as yet you haue not done it) make the King your Father,

father, and the Queene, acquainted therewith, and that ſo ſone as poſſible you can: becauſe I would ſee your marriage perfected before my returne to *Aquileia*, that I may credibly aſſure the King my Brother, what high good fortune is befallen his Daughter, as alſo the continuall honor promiſed you by the deſcendants, and not to you alone, but to your iſſue hereafter likewiſe. Thus awaiting opportunity, to acquaint you at large with our navigation, and what dangers we haue eſcaped on the ſea, as your Admirall and Broantine can teſtifie, who deliuered us from bloodthirſtie Pirates: I cealle, preſenting hartie good will to you from my Piece and my ſelfe.

*From the Iſle of Saint Helena.
By your affectionate friend.
Orbicone.*

Such were the contents of the Letter, ſent from the wiſe *Orbicone* to the Prince *Palladine*, which was preſented him by one of *Broantines* Gentlemen, as he was walking in the Garden with the King and Queene, conſerring on the preparation for the triumphs, at the marriage of *Marcellina* and *Florea*. So ſoner had he read the name of *Orbicone*, and from whence the Letter was directed, but he began to change his countenance meruailouſly, which the King perceiuing, ſaid. What newes hath *Broantine* ſent ye, that makes your rouler alter in ſuch ſort: the Letter doubtleſſe is the cauſe thereof. In truth, ſaid the Queene, I ſee the Letter imports great matter, let vs vnderſtand what is contained therein. *Palladine* not daring to denie this commaundement, cauſing the Gentleman that brought the Letter to withdraw himſelfe, thus answered. My gracious Lord and Father, this Letter deliuers none but good newes: the Siſter to the King of *Aquileia*, and faire *Nonparelia* his Daughter, are come to viſit your Maieſtie. Right welcome are they, ſaid the King, and I will do them all the honor I may: but what may be the

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cauſe.

cause of this kindnesse, seeing our Realme is so farre from *Aquila*. Then Palladine declared the whole discourse of his voiage, how by the aduise of the wise Orbiconte, he had promised the Princesse Nonparelia (after she had receiued her Christendome) to take her in mariage, in that she was accomplished with as rare perfections of beawtie and vertue, as any Princesse in the world beside. You place that for most, quoth the King, which you loue best, preferring corpozall beawtie before vertue: but herein you are to be pardoned, for loue and affection so alter the senses, as makes men put one word in anothers place. I spake of that first my Lord, quoth Palladine, which I first saue in so faire a creature, namely a choise grace of corpozall beawtie: and hauing afterward by frequenting her companie, gathered sufficient knowledge of her inward endowments, I placed them as they came to my acquaintance. And such is my hope, good Father, that your selfe wil iudge no lesse then I doe, when you haue seene her. For the rest, Madame Orbiconte her Aunt shall resolute ye, giuing you to understand matters of weight, and such as you will thinke your selfe happie to knowe: this being the meane to bring to the Christian faith, the great and mightie Kingdome of *Aquila*. Thou tellest me wonders my Sonne, quoth the King, but why didst thou not sooner acquaint me herewith? Because I feared, answered Palladine, that misfortune on the Sea might alter my intent, or the promise of Orbiconte, might be preuented by some other sinister meane. Tell my Sonne, quoth the King, I pray that thy desires may haue a fortunate end, and such things as thou speakest of may come to passe. I meane while, let vs prouide to receiue these two Princes, and make them such entertainment as their calling deserves. Forthwith he commaunded, that the Pallace should be adorned with most sumptuous Tapisserie, and calling for the Viceadmirall, willed him to prepare certaine Ships, that might go meete the Ladies as they came, wherein

Palladine,

Palladine, Zorian, Mantelco, Landastines, and many other great Lords were imbarqued. And being come to the Ile of Tenet, they espied the Ships sayling amaine toward them, and entring among them, Palladine seeing Orbiconte aloft on the deck, knew well where the Princesse Nonparelia was: wherefore going aboard that Ship, catching Orbiconte in his armes, he thus spake. Welcome good Lady into this Countrey, this day doe you giue me life, and the onely comfort I desire in this world: for had not your assurance at my departure from *Aquila* perswaded me, I had ere this bene comforted with the dead. As he was thus embracing Orbiconte, the Princesse Nonparelia came forth of her Cabin, and with a swete smiling countenance came to him, saying. Haue you not done yet my Lord? I am not content that you giue all the welcome to mine Aunt, and allow me no portion thereof, I thinke I haue deserued some part. At these words, he suddenly leauing Orbiconte, embraced his mistresse with such zealous affection, as neither of them were able to speake one word: in which time Zorian and the other Princes, had leisure to welcome the wise Orbiconte. During this time of greeting and salutation, they sayled on with so good a winde, as in short time they entred the Port of *London*, where this honorable companie were receiued with great magnificence, the Citizens conducting them thorough the streets with such pompe and sumptuous deuises, as neuer was the like scene in *London* before. The King and Quene for the greater honor of their Sonne, came to the Court gate to welcome the Princesse, at whose rare beawtie as they did not a little wonder, so there wanted no kinde of courtesie, whereby their good will might at large be expressed. So walking on into the great Hall, there began againe new shewes of entertainment, whereby both Orbiconte and her Piece perceiued, that the Court of *England* was incomparable for gracious behauiour. While the King and Quene were conferring with Orbiconte, Palladine

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dine toke his Lady aside to the windowe, where she at large declared to him, the dangers sustained in their voyage, and their good deliuerance by the Admirall of England and Broantine. Herof swæte Lady, quoth Palladine, your Aunt already hath aduertised me, and I knowe assuredly, that you haue escaped greater perill then you can report to me, all for my loue, wherein I am religiously bound to you while I liue: yet herewithall consider, that you haue endured all this for your faithfull freend and husband, who now bids you welcome as his loyall and espoused wife. Alas, my Lord, quoth the Princesse, you well knowe that I haue no other intent, and the sooner our nuptials are solemnized, the better shall I be quieted, least any dishonour should ouertake me, in respect of what hath passed betwene vs heretofore. Madame, answered Palladine, this care concerneth me as nere as your selfe, and to preuent such danger, we must herein be aduertised by your Aunt Orbiconte, the rest shall be accomplished with all possible speede. In all this time, Orbiconte had so preuailed with the King and Quene, declaring that this marriage was forepointed in their infancie, and should by her meanes be ratified by the King of Aquilea her Brother, as they both promised, that so soone as the King of Portugall was arrived, who was sent for to the marriage of his two Pices, the wedding should be solemnized at that instant likewise. Untill which time, the Princesse should be instructed in the Christian faith, and be made partaker of that holy Sacrament, which is the badge and cognisance of all Christians, so should her obscure thoughts be clerely illuminated, and the marriage would be more acceptable in the sight of God. The Kings deuise was generally well liked, and the Princesse her selfe willing to vnderstand the rules, which were so farre different from her Pagan profession: in which exercise she had her whole studie and delight, till the time came that she should be Baptized.

CHAP.

CHAP. XXXIX.

¶ How the Princesse *Nonparelia* and all her Ladyes, were with great pompe and solemnitie Baptised, and all the honorable mariages afterward finished.

By painefull diligence of diuers learned Diuines, the Princesse was wonne to receiue the faith of a Christian, and all her Ladies likewise that came with her from *Aquilea*: so they being all attired in white garments, were conducted to the Cathedrall Church in *London*, with such royall pompe and

magnificence, as euery eye was set to wonder. Such was her stately maiestie in going, and her swæte looks so effectual in piercing, as the most deuoutest minde was halfe rauished, yea double charged with the baptisme of these twelve *Aquileans*. Mantelco, Landastines and the Quene were her sureties at the font, and diuers honorable persons for the Ladies, who changed none of their names at Palladines request. They were no sooner returned to the Pallace, but newes was brought, that Don Roderigo the King of *Portugall*, was come to *London*: which tidings pleased the King so well, especially all the leuers, whose marriages stayed onely for his conuning, as I thinke the riches of the whole world could not more content them. Roderigo thus arrived, is saluted by the people, embraced by the King his Brother, welcomed by Palladine and the other Princes, kissed so courteously by *Nonparelia* his two Pices, and *Graciana*, Daughter to the Earle of *Fluunders*, as he imagined himselfe in the like place, as heretofore was seigned on the Ile of *Auulon*, and the Kingdome of *Ferri*. On the morrow was the solemnitie of

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of the espoualles, and because the Kings, Princes, and great Lords there arrived, strone who should giue place to each other: it was in the end concluded, that each Bridegrome should leade his Bride himselfe, therefore they went to the Church in this manner. Nonparelia was lead by the Prince of *England*, Marcelina by Mantelco, Florea by Landastines, Graciana by Zorian, Doronea, Daughter to the Duke of *Roffock*, by Broantine, Erinnea, Duchesse of *Rimandria*, by Liboran. Here doe I omit the description of their sumptuous ornaments, chaines, and iewelless, because you are able to conceiue, that such persons at such a time, want nothing that may set forth themselves to the uttermost. The feastes at Dinner and Supper ended, the Maskes, Pommeries, and other pastimes giuen ouer: Hymen entred among them, whose Comedie was so bræfe, as he vsed but one acte and two persons in the scene, and that without any auditours present, but those whome the play and partes concerned. But clære Dyan arising, gaue fauour to some, and offence to other, so for that time the pastime ceased, because the Lords and Ladies came to giue them the good morrowe, especially to Nonparelia, who in time they hoped to see Quene of *England*. She hauing with modest and amiable gestures thanked them, demaunded of Marcelina and Florea her Sisters, how they fared, and how her Brother Zorian did with his faire Princeesse of *Flaunders*: they all replying, that loue that night rewarded their long trauailes, and Venus courteously fauoured her Sonnes proceedings. But leaue we this to such as haue made experience thereof, and now let vs come to a matter long time kept in silence.

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CHAP. XL.

¶ What end the aduenture of the Statues had, namely, that of the Goddesse *Cytherea* and her Sonne *Cupid*: and the braue Tournament after the prooffe thereof, in honor of the marriage of *Palladine* and *Nonparelia*.

In honor of this great sollemnitie, the Princes had concluded on a Tournament at Armes: which to behold, the Ladies of the Court put themselves in comely equipage, when Palladine before them vsed these speeches. Faire Ladies, you knowe how long I haue bene desirous of this day, to make prooffe how the aduenture of Loues Images might be brought to end, namely by one of the race of the King my Father. And albeit I am not that happie knight to whome it is destined, and whome the heauens will regard with such fauour, as in bealutie and firme affection to God beyond all other: yet will not I faile to hazard my triall, being thus farre assured, that in matters appertaining to a noble minde, no one hath beheld me inferiour to any. And if my vertues are not come to perfection, it will be some grieue to me: because the abilitie of a man shall be prized according to his successe in this triall. But to the end these Images newly called to remembrance, may bræde no obscure and difficult understanding, you must heere note, that in the great waste place before the Court at *London*, at the top of a great paire of staires stood these Statues: the one representing Venus, holding in her hand a lighted Torch, not to be extinguished but by the conquerour of double passions: and the other was her Sonne *Cupid*, with an arrowe drawn in his bow, as ready to shoot, which

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which likewise could not be discharged, but by her that was as much overcome, as victorious in amorous affections.

Now although these Statues were made of Marble, yet were they so excellently carued, and approaching so nere to the life: as Venus (being attired in habit after the *English* manner) was able to entise the thoughts of a verie stayed person.

Yet reflects one matter to declare, namely, that the man not deserving the name of a lover, might not present himselfe before these Images: for the sight of such men was so offensive to them, as they would disdain to looke upon them, and exalt themselves up into the aire, because such unworthy people should not touch them.

Returne we now to Prince Palladine againe, he who by generall opinion had not his second in *England*, and by his new entrance into the fellowship of the married, carried this estimation in his owne conceit: that he should beare away this long desired honor, in triall whereof so many had fayled heretofore. Yet herein his high opinion was beguiled, for he must yeld and giue place to those whome the fates had especially appointed, to wit, his owne Sonne, the Prince Florano of *England*, and the faithfull Lady Pamphila of *Greece*, his wife, as in their historie at large it is discoursed. For this cause, that the chiefe honor might remaine to him beyond all the other, he caused Broantine and Liboran to begin the triall first, then the Prince Zorian followed: yet all of them so slenderly fauoured, as they could not attaine to any shew of possibilitie. Which when Landastines and Mantelco beheld, the desire of glorie they had before, made them now of so high and resolute courage, as impatient of delay, they would not tarie for each other, attempting their fortune together: but this unkindly heate caught such a sudden cooling, as their timoritie grew insupportable, whereby the Images turned their backs to them. When they here-
at

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at offended, said: that the vertue of loue (in this triall) had not his due, therefore they ought not to be any way disabled. As for this piece of Witchcraft, quoth they, here beautie is preferred before loyalty: therefore it must consequently followe, that he and she who should despoile these Images, must be the most faire and loyall of all louers. So such as had not exquisite beautie, and loyalty to be teamed incomparable: were repulsed thence with such discontent, as the open foyle was more greivous then death to them. Palladine hereat thoroughly moued, yet more reioicing at anothers fault, then distrusting his owne sufficiencie: aduanced himselfe, and proffering his owne hand to the Torche, and the other to the Bowe, the Images (making obeysance, and shewing amiable countenance to him) mounted up on high from him, which caused such a laughter among the Ladies, as if they had scene a spectacle of greatest meriment. Erinnas Duchesse of *Rimandria*, and wife to Liboran, with Doronea wife to Broantine, newly created Duke of *Bastanella*, in their triall, the Images turned their backs to them: Graciana, Marcelina, and Florea had but little more credit, sauing that the Images moued not from them.

But now came Nonparelia to her turne, and her behaviour procured a generall contentment: for Venus let her touch the Torche, and set the Crowne on her shoulder, but toke it back againe immediatly: thereby prefiguring, that she being, had now lost her libertie.

When they sawe the aduerture could not be ended, the Ladies betooke them to their Scaffoldes, and the Knightes entred the Lystes, to make better proofe of their fortune by Chitallrie. Landastines, accompanied with Broantine, Mustell of *Rosbeck*, Brunifort his brother, and Orliman of *Flamanders*, with an hundred Knightes more first entred the field.

On the other side came the Prince Zorian, with Liboran, Durandell of *Cleue*, Grinday of *Orton*, and Sedonis of *Suffolke*,
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Suffolke. with an hundred braue and couragious Knights : who at the sound of the Trompets, encountred each other with meruailous valour. Landastines and Zorian Iustled together, being of such equall strength and hardy courage, as the victorie could be gained on neither side : to cut off which controuersie, a new assaiant entred the Lyfles, bearing in his Sheld a golden Whenix, and vpon his Armour a coate of Crimolin Tielnet, whereon, these two letters SS were verie thick imbroidered in Gold and Pearle, the sight of this Gallant gaue cause of admiration, and matter of valew was expected to come from him.

CHAP. XLI

¶ Who was the new Knight of the Phoenix, and of a Letter the Prince *Palladine* receyued, concerning his fyrst loue.



Reason requireth, that this new assaiant should be knowne, and the cause of his coming, least otherwise you should misconceiue of the matter, and so be depriued of the delight promised thereby. Know you then, that the Knight of the Whenix was the Prince *Cæsar*, Sonne to Othon the Emperour of *Rome* then reigning, and husband to the faire *Rosamond* of *France*, who hearing of the honorable Triumph at the marriage of the Prince *Palladine*, and the aduenture of the Statues before the Court at *London* : frauailed thither, to win the conquest of the one, and credit of the other, that at his returne to his best beloued, he might obtaine the greater grace and fauour.

Cæsar being thus entred the Lyfles, and noting the braue chivalrie shewen by the Princes, stood still a good while,

while, till he sawe both the sides make offer of departure. But fearing to be reproued for his long stay, as though by cowardise he durst not trie his fortune, he first encountred one of the Prince *Zorians* Knights, and threw him to the ground with his heeles vpsward. Seauen or eight more of them he serued in the like sort, till *Landastines* would needs deale with this Champion : but *Cæsar* met him with such violence, as both horse and man was sent to the ground.

The Prince of *Norgalles* desirous to reuenge this shame, called for a fresh Horse and a Launce : and calling his enemy to Ioust againe, as he made proffer to begin his carie, the Prince *Cæsar* thus spake to him.

God Sir be not offended with him, who hath saluted you with a courtesie common among Knights errant : but enduring the same with patience, giue the like to such as hazard them selues against you.

I feele no taste of courtesie, quoth *Landastines*, in such greetings, and thou mayst happen to confesse the same with him thou next assaylest, notwithstanding all thy brauerie in speeches. By prose, said *Cæsar*, I shall be made perfect, a fierce assaiant shall be assured of a braue defence. So breaking off this contention, he gaue the spurs to his horse against *Zorian*, giuing him such a rough charge at the encounter, as he was cast quite out of his saddle.

At this sight were *Palladine* and *Manteleo* greatly displeased, whom the King (for the earnest loue he bare them) would not permit to beare Armes in this Tourney, but caused them to accompanie their Ladies on the Scaffold, and to giue iudgement who best deserved : they (as I said) moued with the behauiour of the Knight of the Whenix, came to the King with great reuerence, *Palladine* belueing these speeches.

My Lord, the reuerence and dutie that children owe to their Parents, hath made vs remaine idle among these Ladies,

Ladies, during the honest exercise of our friends and companions, esteeming to contradict your commaund, were an offence more then presumptuous. But now are our desires so stirred and prouoked, as we can no longer containe our selues in quietnes, but are enforced humbly to intreat, that your highnesse would giue vs leave to Arme our selues, onely to teach this newcome Gallant, who thinks already he hath made a conquest, that in *England* are Knights, sprung from the race of the chiefe of the round Table, who are not to be feared with sixing thre or foure men vnhoisted.

My Sonne, quoth the King, my commaund was to no other end, then to withhold ye from the thing you haue now desired, because assayed new Combates without Armes, you should not be endangered by two trials together, considering how the one may be a hinderance to the other: and so doubtlesse would it come to passe at this instant, were I not fully perswaded, that hono^r neuer breakes companie with true loue, but more and more aduanceth his titles, to the great encouragement of all noble mindes. Therefore my Sonnes, doe what you please, I will not hinder ye: go in Gods name, and returne with the full of my desire.

Having thus obtained what they would, they departed to their lodgings, returning some armed and well mounted, and passing by the Scaffold, Palladine intreated his Nonparella, to giue him one of her Bracelets, wherewith he might enter the Tour under her fauour. In which time, Mantelco went to trie his fortune with the Sonne of Otho, and many Launces were broken betwene them, yet neither able to dismount the other. Wherewith Mantelco being angry, and seeking policie to preuaile against his foe: Lord Caesar lifting up the beuer of his helmet, imagining by the rich armes of Mantelco, that he was the Prince of *England*, with courteous reuerence to him, thus spake.

Sir

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Sir Palladine, perceiuing that you knowe me not, nor the cause of my coming into this Countrey, and seeing you would proceed to the Combate: the loue I beare ye, constraineth me willingly to discouer my selfe, beside, verie loth am I to lose the credit I haue wonne already, and so prouoke you to displeasure against me. I am your friend Caesar, Sonne to the Emperour, as ready to be commaunded by you, as any other of your knights in *England*. Of this peate was Mantelco not a little glad, yet brauely dissembling the matter, he thus answered.

Lord Caesar, I am not the man you take me for, but in respect of this exceeding gentleness, and the recurrent dutie I owe beside: I will proceed no further, but here giue ouer all cause of quarrell. And that your desire may be the more satisfied, I will bring ye to the man you imagined me to be, and likewise you shall knowe, with whom you haue now wisely dealt without aduantage. My name is Mantelco, Sonne to the Duke of *Millayne*, and Brother by marriage to the Prince Palladine of *England*. But the accustomed humours among new married folkes, had charmed Palladine in such sort, as he sawe not when Mantelco thus ventured before him: yet afterward, seeing two enemies so lovingly embrace, he meruailed who the Knight of the Phoenix should be, at length these two parted came toward the Prince, and in offering to salute him, this cause of stay hindered them.

While Palladine was fastening his Ladies Bracelet about his arme, a Squire came before him, who on his knees presented him a Letter, saying. Welcome Lord my Lady and Mistress the Duchesse of the rich Isles, whom you verie well knowe, commending her selfe to your good grace, hath sent you this Letter: desiring as the latest good you will doe her, to answer the same with all convenient speed.

This message, chiefly the verie last words, amazed the Prince, and being assailed with diuers imaginations,

The pleasant Historie

he brake open the Seale, and opening the Letter, read there these lines following.

*The Letter from Brisilda, Duchesse of the rich Islands,
to Palladine the Prince of England.*

At what time (my Lord) I was so happie, as to see you here in the rich Islands, I thought assuredly my god hap had taken such effect, as death it selfe could no way bring to end. Not so much in knowing my selfe to be your beloued, as to remember that my first friend was the Sonne of a King, whose good partes I engraued so lively in my hart, as none but he was made Lord therof: referring to my selfe this onely regard, that loue had made me no more yours, then dutie had confirmed you mine. Considering herewithall, that as a gadge of my god will, you being surprized with some part of my graces, and passionate beyond measure (as your selfe sayd) if my liking did not comfort with yours: I gaue you that remedie for your sickness, which a Lady of such calling as I am, would not haue bestowed on the greatest Prince in the world. Notwithstanding, our desires had then such a sympathie of affection, as in all matters we were alike, hauing each others honor in equall commendation, our nobilitie, parentage, and what rise beside, combined together in a rich prospect. But so it is come to passe, that of our first sight, affection, and familiaritie, such a testimonie remaineth, as may not be forgotten: for since your unkind departure, leauing me in a labyrinth of endlesse grief, I am deliuered of a Sonne begotten by you, whom I haue named Vnyon, now aged twentie monethes, who bearing the perfect image of his fathers graces, is the onely comfort his sorrowfull mother hath. And herein you may beleue me, that an hundred times he hath preferred my life, hauing so weightie a burthen at my hart, as is the small account you haue made of me since your departure, and the wrong you

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you doe me in racing me forth of your remembrance, not boughsaling once to acquaint me with the cause thereof. Wherewith my hap so hard and regrettable, as death were more welcome to me then life: to assuage which insupportable burthen, I haue no comfort but your little Sonne, whom hourly I hold in mine armes, inuincibly so swete a babe should haue so sowre a father. Yet being thus cast off and disoained, the sorrow can not be so irksome to me, as the blame would to you, were your discourtesie openly knowne: but such is my loue to you, that my nature vanquished, none but your selfe shall know how you haue wronged me; nor further reuenge will I seeke, then with mine owne death to burie your shame. What would your new loue Nonparelia say, if she knew my bed abused by her husband, and she wife to him, who by flesh and blood is married to me: she being the second, might well thinke the first to be hardly intreated. But let not any doubt heretofore offend you, for from her will I safely conceale it: not in respect of any loue to her, but by reasoning eternore.

Your faithfull and immouable friend,
Brisilda, Duchesse of the rich Islands.

After he had read the Letter, he was stricken into such adumpe, and oppressed with such remorse of conscience, as scantly could he endure from falling beside his horse: the best meane to preuent the same, was the arriual of Caesar and Mantleo, which made him quickly change his countenance, when the Emperours Sonne thus spake to him.

Sir Palladine, the courtesie shewen me by the Prince of *Millaine* your Brother, hath deliuered me from great trouble, enforcing me to forbear armes, to entertaine him in stead of your selfe. The happie Bridegrome are you to faire Nonparelia, whose praises soare aboue the Eagle in height: nor can I forget your famous chualrie,
A. J. person.

performed in defence of her portrait, when you conquered in *France* the proud Zarcanel, her vnwofthie seruant that brought her figure thether.

I can not denie my Lord, answered Palladine, but the representation of my Ladies beaultie, hath made me conquerour in diuers slender enterprises, wonn from such as had no abilitie to keepe them, wherein if I haue deserued any repute, as friends are easily intreated to commend one another: farre inferiour are they to the faire Rosamonde, and those aduentures that noble Cesar hath accomplished for her.

I see well my Lord, quoth Cesar, that you will binde mee to you in such sort, as I shall haue no meane to compass the least part of gratification: but let vs end this needlesse talke, and goe see the rare creature, whose vertues hath allured hither so many hyane Gallants. So walked they to the Pallace, where the King entertained Cesar verie royally, and all the Ladies with exceeding courtesie, Landastines and Zorian doing the lyke, nothing ashamed that the Emperours Sonne had the honoz of the Tourney.

CHAP.

CHAP. XLII.

¶ What answere Palladine sent to the Duchesse Brisfalda, and how Cesar returned to his faire Rosamonde, Landastines, and Mantelco likewise into their countreys; and of the birth of Florio the Prince of England, Sonne to Palladine and Nonparelia.



Cesar being thus welcommed in the Court of England, both by the Lords and Ladies, especially Nonparelia: Palladine feigning to goe vpon himse, took the messenger from the Duchesse Brisfalda with him, saying. My friend, you must needs haue a little patience, and according to your Ladies request, presently you shall haue a byesse answere from me. Then calling for inke and paper, he went alone into the Wardrobe, because he would not be suspected by any, and answered the Letter in this sort.

The Letter from Palladine, to the Duchesse Brisfalda.

Madame, matters hauing so strangely passed hitherto, yet without any cause of offence, you haue had some occasion to complaine, being ignorant of my hinderance in trauaile: but when you shall vnderstand, who hath bene the cause of all the honors obtained by Palladine, you will alter your conceit of displeasure toward me. I desire ye to comfort your selfe, with the sight of our little Sonne Vnyon: of whose welfare I am no lesse glad, then were I Lord of all the Orbes. Your bed hath not bene abused, hauing thereby gained so faire a flower, and well may you thus
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thus haunt of your Palladine, that he is bowed to his Sonnes good fortune, maugre the crueltie of the greatest Tirant in the world. And albeit I haue espoused Nonparelia, she must remaine as my wife, without diminishing any part of the good will, wherein I am indebted to Bralsda of the rich Islands.

Your freend for euer,
Palladine.

Having sealed this Letter with his Seale of Armes, and bound about it a little golden Chaine, whereat he fastened a costly Diamond: he deliuered it to the messenger, saying, My friend, deliuer this from me to thy noble mistresse, with my continuall dutie to her god grace, desiring her to keepe this Jewell for my sake, in that it is the chiefest I make account of. As for your paines, this Chaine of gold from mine owne neck I giue ye, and let it serue as part of a recompence toward your traualle. Thus is the messenger returned to the Duchesse, who hauing read the Letter from Palladine, qualified her sorrows by good persuasions, and afterwarde married with the Prince Afsan of Ireland. Now cometh Palladine into the great Hall, and there renewed his former communication with Cesar, and the evening being spent in Pastimes and braue deuises, onely to honoꝝ the Emperours Sonne, at length they all betake themselves to their Chambers.

On the morrow, Cesar came to the Ladies, desiring them to see him trie his fortune at the Statues, which he perswading himselfe able to smite, was disappointed with a shamefull repulse, the griefe whereof so offended him, as that day he secretly departed from the Court, not bidding the King or any one adieu. The day following, as Palladine was walking in the Garden with the King, he entred into these speeches.

My gracious Lord and Father, having granted me to marrie with the Lady, whose vertuous qualities deserued

OR FALLADINE OF ENGLAND.

ned a much better husband, I greatly doubt, least the King her Father, being ignorant of our former contract, will finde himselfe so agraued hereat, that he will seeke reuenge as Kings are wont to do, which in plainer termes, is by the Sword. To prevent the danger imminent in this case, our friend Lydleo being now King of *Hungaria*, through whose Dominions he must needs passe: I thinke it not amisse to aduertise him hereof, that he may there offer resistance, while we prouide here our men and munition in readinesse. Hæreto may my Brethren of *Norgalles* and *Millyne* be auailing likewise, wherefore with their Aliues they intend to returne home into their countreys, and they being our faithfull allyed friends, will there likewise haue their subiects in readinesse, to giue vs succour if neede shall require.

My Sonne, answered the King, seeing the marriage is accomplished, it is too late to be blamed, or now to vse speeches in this behalfe, which are but frivulous and imposable. I pray thee therefore, reserve to the children (if thou happen to haue any) a future peace, without any cause of warre or molestation: and well hast thou aduised vs, as concerning our beloued Brother the King of *Hungaria*, to whome within these ten dayes, I will send mine Ambassadour. Meane while, our Sonnes of *Norgalles*, and *Millyne*, shall haue all things readie to depart when they please, as loth to hinder their good determination, or any thing that may be for thy quiet and suretie. What other matters were that day dispatched in Councell, all of as great importance as this, which I will passe over with silence, because the secrets of Kings are not to be made common.

The Ambassadour for *Hungaria* being dispatched, commanded Mantleo and his Lady to *Millyne* where he left this married couple so combyed with promise for warre, as they not forgetting any part of their amorous desires, ere ten monethes were past, Marcelina was deliuered

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of a goodly Sonne, named Hector of *Milmyne*, imitating his father in deedes of chivalrie, yet being the first of that name that euer wan honoꝝ in the field.

If Mantelco was welcomed with great ioy by his father and his Subiects, Landastines was not inferiour to him when he entred *Norgalles*, where the old King Harison his father worthely entertained him, being so glad of his good fortune, as hauing embraced and kissed the Princesse Florca, the teares trickled downe his white beard with inward conceite of ioy. Ah my Sonne, quoth he, how much are we bound to thanke the God of heauen, for this especiall signe of his grace and fauour: how am I and mine likewise continually to reioice, that our tribute to the Crowne of *England* is thus freely forgiven vs: in happie houre was this marriage concluded, that not onely bringeth a continuall league of peace, but disburdeneth vs of a painment troublesome to our whole countrey. Now dare no enemye were vs with warre, seeing we haue the King of *England* our freind: wherefore my Sonne, for bringing this comfort to thy fathers hart, whose age makes him now unfit to gouerne any longer: here I deliuer the Crowne into thy hands, not doubting but thou wilt rule as thy father hath done before thee. Landastines being thus honoꝝed, add put into full possession of the Crowne of *Norgalles*, some after made the King his father a Graundstire, by the birth of Don Celidon his Sonne, to the no little ioy of all his Subiects. The like good hap had the Prince Palladine, to honoꝝ the aged King Milanor withall: Nonparelia being deliuered of the yong Prince Florano, at whose birth were many good fortunes prognosticated, for which, the Citizens of *London* in signe of their reioicing, caused bonafires to be made in the streets, and the Belles were rung day and night during the space of a sennighte.

All things being come to so good effect, and the married Louers in their owne Countreys, the wise Orbiconto would

of Palladine of England.

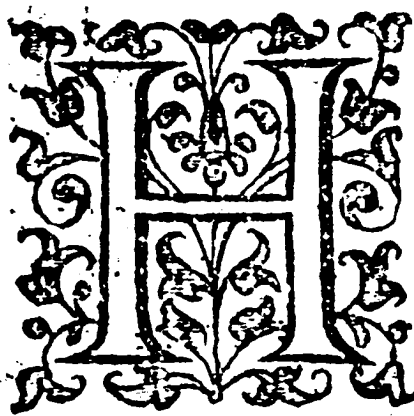
would now likewise take her leaue: for a mightie Griffin as red as blood, came flying from the aire into the Palace, which she laying hold upon, came before the King Milanor and the Quene, and to Palladine framed her speeches in this manner.

O noble Pephelwe, I beseech ye as you loue your honoꝝ and renowne, and are desirous to make it immortall, that you will cause your yong Sonne to be carefully nourished: assuring you, that his deedes shall be correspondent to his name, flourishing about all the knightes of his time, he bring the onely flower that euer grew in *England*. And not onely shall he be famous for deedes of Armes and Chivalrie, but vertue and loyaltie he shall haue in such commendation, as no Lady in the world shall be found worthy of his loue, but Pamphilia Daughter to the Emperour of *Greece*, as yet vnborne. Florano shall loue loyally this Lady. In his loue he shall be so secret, sure, and well aduised, and she like to him in all these giftes: as through the world they may not be equalled. To him and her, are the aduentures of the Statues reserved, let none therefore seeke before that time to obtaine them. And now will I to *Aquile*, to confirme your peace with the King my Brother, and lay downe order for his reuolt to Chistianitie. Her speeches thus ended, and friendly embracings passed on all sides: she cast her selfe on the Griffons back, and mounting into the aire, left *England*, and is gone toward *Aquile*. With this meruailous accident we meane to pause, and here conclude

our long labour, according to the appointment of Polismar and Palnocid, ancient Historiographers of worthy memoꝝ, who first deliuered this Historie in the British tongue.

FINIS.

To the Gentlemen Readers.



Here did Claudius Colet of Champagne, who wrote this worke in the French tooing, make a full conclusion of the Historie: and I hauing no further scope, but bound to follow the direction of mine Author, heere doo I likewise knit up the famous discourse of Prince Palladine. What errors haue past in my simple translation, I must commit to the freendly iudgement of such, as knowe that the wisest may step awry, and he was neuer yet heard of that pleased such humour. My good will is greater then my abilitie, and when a man doth bestowe his endeuour, onely to delight and not displease: it is courtesie to entertaine such a ones labours freendly, considering the recompence is small for a tedious trauaile. The historie of Palmenodos and Primaleon, promised in my two partes of Palmierin d'Oliva, as leysure will permit shall be perfected: in meane while (for Countries sake) bid Palladine welcome, which the French haue published in the honor of England.

Honos alit Artes.

Your well wishing freend

Anthony Munday.

Diuers foule fautes are escaped in the imprinting, in some places words mistaken, as rich procall for riciprocall in Brisaldaes Letter to Palladine, and diuers other by mishap left out, and partly by want of my attendaunce to reade the proofes, beeing called away by matters of greater importance, and whereto I am bound by dutie of mine office: therefore as you happen to finde them, and are able to conceiue what in truth they should be, let me intreate you freendly to correct them, because I am loth to trouble you with a gathered Errata.